Leading up to this year’s city elections, The Dispatch sent questionnaires to all candidates in the Golden Triangle. Candidates were asked to provide basic information such as age, political experience and contact information. They were also asked to answer three questions, limiting their responses to a set word count.

The answers provided to us are printed in this guide. We only edited the answers for length; we didn’t make any grammatical corrections.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates, and our staff followed up with phone calls and emails in an effort to get responses from every candidate.

Sample ballots for Lowndes, Oktibbeha, Clay and Noxubee counties are included in this special section.
**Q&A with Tommy Jackson**

1. **What is the biggest challenge facing Columbus and how would you address it?**

   To get citizens to think outside of the norm and not resort to what is known to make them feel comfortable.

2. **How can city government work to help citizens and businesses emerge from the pandemic?**

   We have to be able to paint a vision so simple and clear to the citizens that it makes them feel that they can do it. Sometimes it allows businesses to bounce back as if nothing happened.

3. **What is the importance of a healthy city-county relationship and what actions could be taken to improve that relationship?**

   Look throughout history and every great nation from the inside. I believe that the city & county must work and behave like one. To the point that citizens don’t know who’s who in the city or who’s over a certain ward.

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**Q&A with Keith Gaskin**

1. **What is the biggest challenge facing Columbus and how would you address it?**

   Columbus faces a multitude of challenges now and in the days ahead from gun violence and pandemic to potholes and population decline. At the root of all of them, like most things, is money. Our city’s finances are not where they should be. Many of you have asked serious questions concerning our financial stability that you feel have not been completely answered. If elected, I will commission a city-wide review of all government systems, including a tabled audit in segments by department, as well as overall, to identify precisely the areas of concern and peculiarity. I guarantee total transparency in this process, with public briefings scheduled for each segment upon completion. Once we’ve addressed the source of the problems at hand, we can begin the real hard work of overcoming the challenges at hand.

2. **How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?**

   Columbus is a place for everyone. We are deeply committed to creating an environment that is welcoming to all. We must work together in meaningful and effective ways to help the growing issues of gang violence and drug trafficking. In my opinion, the City and County leadership have a responsibility to the people to work together as partners, not competitors. As mayor, I will focus on building open communication lines and a professional relationship with all county elected officials and administrations.

3. **How would you work to improve Columbus’ infrastructure?**

   The City and County leadership have a responsibility to the people, work together as partners, not competitors. As mayor, I will focus on building open communication lines and a professional relationship with all county elected officials and administrations. Both bodies should collaborate with each other at every opportunity. Some actions we can take to improve and foster the relationship obviously concern law enforcement, jurisdictional duties, the Sheriff’s department, and the County leadership have a responsibility to the people to work together as partners, not competitors.

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**City Councilman Ward 1**

1. **What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?**

   The COVID-19 pandemic has been uniquely destructive to all our lives and livelihoods in ways most of us never imagined. Open communication, fact-based policies, and clear messaging are key. Once we’ve reached the CDC’s and Dr. Dobbs’ benchmarks for immunization, we should continue our reopening with commonsense guidelines in place. We should use infrastructure grants and creative solutions to make opening a small business or staying open more feasible and allow business owners to use their own creativity and ingenuity to do business the best they can. As the weather warms up, we should utilize our outdoor spaces, sidewalks, parks, and venues to hold small business shopping days and encourage outdoor dining. As the weather warms up, we should utilize our outdoor spaces, sidewalks, parks, and venues to hold small business shopping days and encourage outdoor dining. As the weather warms up, we should utilize our outdoor spaces, sidewalks, parks, and venues to hold small business shopping days and encourage outdoor dining.

2. **How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?**

   The City and County leadership should collaborate with each other at every opportunity. Some actions we can take to improve and foster the relationship obviously concern law enforcement, jurisdictional duties, the Sheriff’s department, and the County leadership have a responsibility to the people to work together as partners, not competitors.

3. **How would you work to improve Columbus’ infrastructure?**

   The City and County leadership should collaborate with each other at every opportunity. Some actions we can take to improve and foster the relationship obviously concern law enforcement, jurisdictional duties, the Sheriff’s department, and the County leadership have a responsibility to the people to work together as partners, not competitors.

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**City of Columbus**

**Mayor**

Democrat

Robert Smith (I)

Occupation: Education

Political experience: Two years Meridian Community College

Education: Bachelor of Science, University of Southern Mississippi; State University; Ph.D. and Master of Public Policy Administration, Mississippi Science Foundation

Occupation: Independent

Montrell Coburn

Occupation: Security (MSU)

Education: Two years of studying Human Government

Political experience: 20 years of studying Human Government

Occupation: Keith Gaskin

Occupation: Executive Director Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science Foundation

Political experience: First term candidate

Education: Ph.D and Master of Public Policy Administration, Mississippi State University; Bachelor of Science, University of Southern Mississippi

Residence: 813 14th St., N., Columbus

Phone: 662-549-4433

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Democrat

Robert Smith (I)

Occupation: Education

Political experience: Ten years

Education: Independent

Occupation: Montrell Coburn

Occupation: Security (MSU)

Education: Two years of studying Human Government

Political experience: 20 years of studying Human Government

Occupation: Keith Gaskin

Occupation: Executive Director Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science Foundation

Political experience: First term candidate

Education: Ph.D and Master of Public Policy Administration, Mississippi State University; Bachelor of Science, University of Southern Mississippi

Residence: 813 14th St., N., Columbus

Phone: 662-549-4433

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.
Democrat
Ethel Taylor Stewart (I)
Occupation: Owner of Sal's Restaurant
Education: Bachelor of Business Administration; Mississippi State University
Political experience: Refugio City Council Ward 1
Family: Husband Stuart Phillips; children Arthur, Axel and Senah
Email: EthelTaylorStewart@gmail.com
Phone: 662.769.8854

Joseph Mickens (I)
Occupation: Accountant
Education: Certified Public Accountant
Political experience: Democrat Candidate is running unopposed
Family: Marital for 23 years to Senah; children Arthur, Axel and Senah
Education: B.S. in Educational Psychology (U. Miss.); Mississippi State University
Phone: 918.544.1915

Kalie Stacey Phillips
Occupation: City Councilman Ward 1
Education: Bachelor of Science in Accounting (U. Miss.); Mississippi State University
Political experience: Refugio City Council Ward 1
Family: Husband Stuart Phillips; children Arthur, Axel and Senah
Email: KaliePhillips.ward1@gmail.com
Phone: 662.769.8854

City Council Ward 1: Q&A

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?

What Ward 1 residents tell me is they worry about crime. They are frustrated with all the shootings and lack of police presence. Some are scared to be outside of their homes after dark.

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?

First impressions matter. Our gateways must be attractive to those who are visiting for the first time or who are considering locating within Columbus. They must be attractive and noticeable. The gateway into Columbus is the area with the most ditches that have not been filled. We must improve our city’s appearance, visible and visible. That is a win-win situation for the residents and businesses, but also increase needed revenue for the city.

3. How would you work to improve Columbus’ infrastructure?

One of the major concerns I hear when talking with the residents of Ward 1 is that our tax dollars are not being spent wisely. Many people feel that there is too much waste and we need to make better decisions on where to spend our money. We need to focus on the roads and streets that need the most attention, but also increase needed revenue for the city.

Information and road conditions are a big concern for many residents of Columbus. With the shear number of roads to be maintained, we need to prioritize which roads need the most attention. We also need to ensure that our roads are well-maintained and that they are safe for all residents to use.

City Council Ward 2

City Council Ward 3

City Council Ward 3: Q&A

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?

Excessive speeders and/or racing through the neighborhoods. Excessive pot holes. Debtors being picked up in a timely manner. Illegally dumping.

2. How would you work to improve future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?

I will work with other city officials and city engineers to make sure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses. I will work with the other city officials and engineers to ensure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses. I will work with the other city officials and engineers to ensure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses.

3. How would you work to improve Columbus’ infrastructure?

I will work with other city officials and city engineers to make sure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses. I will work with the other city officials and engineers to make sure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses. I will work with the other city officials and city engineers to make sure that we are making the best decisions on where to place businesses.

Information and road conditions are a big concern for many residents of Columbus. With the shear number of roads to be maintained, we need to prioritize which roads need the most attention. We also need to ensure that our roads are well-maintained and that they are safe for all residents to use.

Republican
Rusty Greene
Occupation: City Councilman Ward 1
Education: Bachelor of Science in Accounting (U. Miss.); Mississippi State University
Political experience: Republican
Family: Married for 23 years to Francine Taylor; children Jana Tate and Jana Tate
Education: Bachelor of Science in Accounting (U. Miss.); Mississippi State University
Phone: 918.544.1915

Republicans

One of the major concerns I hear when talking with the residents of the Columbus area is the high cost of living. Many people feel that there is too much waste and that we need to make better decisions on where to spend our money. We need to focus on the roads and streets that need the most attention, but also increase needed revenue for the city.

Information and road conditions are a big concern for many residents of Columbus. With the shear number of roads to be maintained, we need to prioritize which roads need the most attention. We also need to ensure that our roads are well-maintained and that they are safe for all residents to use.

Infrastructure and road conditions are a big concern for many residents of Columbus. With the shear number of roads to be maintained, we need to prioritize which roads need the most attention. We also need to ensure that our roads are well-maintained and that they are safe for all residents to use.
City Councilman Ward 3 (continued)

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?

3. How would you work to improve Columbus’ infrastructure?

Kurt Bridges

Occupation: Educator
Education: Political experience: Residence: Family: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

City Councilman Ward 4

1. The biggest challenge facing Ward 4 is illegal wall of drugs, gangs and gambling.
2. Youths without discipline, young mothers leaving children unsupervised.
3. Teenagers with guns and shooting of Black teenagers by Black teenagers.
4. No mental health outreach.

Make Columbus safe. Education of demographics, work with council members on proper strategies to write grants to fund needed improvements for advancement of roads, sewers, air and river transportation of goods for our economy, wear and tear of our vehicles due to potholes. Make sure educate, train and test our youth so they won’t leave Columbus looking for jobs.

Work with council members, mayor and community involvement. Write grants to get needed funds that don’t have to be repaid. Channel money, property and don’t misuse taxpayers money. Keep us honest and make us trustworthy all leaders.

Patricia Ann Douglas

Occupation: Retired educator; presently Christian education
Education: Graduate Columbus City schools; attended MUR; Oleve Hanley
Political experience: Politically educating classes in progress; political science classes
Residence: 2408 21st Ave. N., Columbus
Family: Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother
Email: douglaspa547@gmail.com
Phone: 662-251-5899

Marty Turner

Occupation: Consultant
Education: Associates of business
Political experience: Former councilman
Residence: 1504 23rd St. N., Columbus
Family: Marty Turner wife, Coco Turner dog
Email: Martyturner2988@gmail.com
Phone: 662-242-8682

The biggest challenge of Ward 4 is neglect which lead to distrust in the local government to solve public problems. I will work hard to restore hope in our community by being tangible, accessible and transparent.

I will promote industry by making sure the city partnership with the LINK stays strong and make sure the our neighborhoods are prepared for the jobs by highlighting workforce training programs of EMCC.

Improving our infrastructure will be challenging because our city is so old so we have to try and find grants and work with C&W to make this happen. The good news is the covid relief bill past and there are monies allocated for infrastructure so it all won’t come from local taxpayers.

Pierre D. Beard Sr. (I)

Occupation: City Councilman
Education: Business Administration
Political experience: Current Councilman since 2019
Email: pierreedward@gmail.com
Phone: 662-415-1235

The biggest problem facing my ward is believing we have opportunity. Often times, Ward 4 seems to be viewed as the forgotten ward. The virus derailed some of the community action items I had planned but not that we’re getting close to beating the virus, people will start seeing a lot more events geared towards Unity and Action. We need more workshops and forums so people will have basic knowledge and resources to help them accomplish basic goals. I feel that we have to start taking advantage of the local talent we have in Ward 4 in order to become more progressive and become more proactive to issues that have been plaguing for years.

I think that we need to strengthen our relationship with our county government, chamber of commerce, Columbus AFB, and also the Link. To bring more jobs into this area is going to take a unified approach and that’s what I have to work toward. It’s important for everyone to know that the council runs the city, and every single one of us need to be out front alongside our partners in bringing in more industrial jobs. One factor that impacts us is the amount of land and real businesses would require to come here, and we just don’t have an abundance of that available in the city.

Infrastructure and code enforcement in regards to dilapidated buildings have been the majority of the calls I’ve received in my two years as councilman. We recently just awarded a contract for some road paving that should start within the next weeks. However, going forward, I think we need to have a complete and impartial audit of our finances, and then work towards balancing the budget. I think painting a clearer picture of where we were, where we are now, and what the future looks like would go a long way with the citizens of Columbus.

City Councilman Ward 5

Stephen Jones (I)

Occupation: Educator
Education: Political experience: Residence: Family: Email: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Term: 4 years, Annual salary: $17,500

City of Columbus

Q&A

Independent

Kurt Bridges

Occupation: Educator
Political experience: Residence: Family: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Democrat

Patricia Ann Douglas

Occupation: Retired educator; presently Christian education
Education: Graduate Columbus City schools; attended MUR; Oleve Hanley
Political experience: Politically educating classes in progress; political science classes
Residence: 2408 21st Ave. N., Columbus
Family: Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother
Email: douglaspa547@gmail.com
Phone: 662-251-5899

Marty Turner

Occupation: Consultant
Education: Associates of business
Political experience: Former councilman
Residence: 1504 23rd St. N., Columbus
Family: Marty Turner wife, Coco Turner dog
Email: Martyturner2988@gmail.com
Phone: 662-242-8682

Independent

Pierre D. Beard Sr. (I)

Occupation: City Councilman
Education: Business Administration
Political experience: Current Councilman since 2019
Email: pierreedward@gmail.com
Phone: 662-415-1235

Democrat

Stephen Jones (I)

Occupation: Educator
Education: Political experience: Residence: Family: Email: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

City of Columbus

Q&A

Independent

Kurt Bridges

Occupation: Educator
Political experience: Residence: Family: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Democrat

Patricia Ann Douglas

Occupation: Retired educator; presently Christian education
Education: Graduate Columbus City schools; attended MUR; Oleve Hanley
Political experience: Politically educating classes in progress; political science classes
Residence: 2408 21st Ave. N., Columbus
Family: Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother
Email: douglaspa547@gmail.com
Phone: 662-251-5899

Marty Turner

Occupation: Consultant
Education: Associates of business
Political experience: Former councilman
Residence: 1504 23rd St. N., Columbus
Family: Marty Turner wife, Coco Turner dog
Email: Martyturner2988@gmail.com
Phone: 662-242-8682

Independent

Pierre D. Beard Sr. (I)

Occupation: City Councilman
Education: Business Administration
Political experience: Current Councilman since 2019
Email: pierreedward@gmail.com
Phone: 662-415-1235

Democrat

Stephen Jones (I)

Occupation: Educator
Education: Political experience: Residence: Family: Email: Phone: Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.
City Councilman Ward 6

Q & A

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Columbus?

3. How would you work to improve Columbus' infrastructure?

Republican

Jacqueline DiCicco
Occupation: Business owner/Skin Care Center, clinical esthetician
Education: Columbus, Columbus University of Advertising Graduate Studies Certification Organizational Leadership
Political experience: 13 years City Councilman Ward 6 – 8 years Vice Mayor
Residence: 112 Steeplechase Drive, Columbus
Family: Husband was Paul DiCicco (died in 2006), grandchildren, great-grandchildren
Email: Jackiefor6@gmail.com
Phone: 662-240-0001 office
662-386-4888 campaign

It could be argued that my ward is the cash register of the City of Columbus. City wide benefits will happen on the wards. It is my goal to serve as the safety net for families to shop, eat and play. This will help Columbus reverse decades of population loss and put us back in our rightful place of leadership in the Golden Triangle Region.

We have to develop a plan for the re-development of Leigh Field. That 30-acre site is the most valuable and the most serious money maker for the city. The city must do a better job of keeping the ditches clean and free of debris. We must also keep the storm drains clean. It could be argued that my ward is the cash register of the City of Columbus. It is the register where we spend the most money for 10 to 20 years for street paving that will last 5 years.

I believe Columbus industrial growth must stop by retail rather than manufacturing. Lowndes County has done a great job with the industrial park and recruiting industry. I would not do is continue to borrow money for 10 to 20 years for street paving that will last 5 years.

Bill Gavin (I)
Occupation: Retired/ Columbus City Councilman
Education: Masters Degree in Political experience: 12 years City Councilman Ward 6 – 8 years Vice Mayor
Residence: 112 Steeplechase Drive, Columbus
Family: Wife Tammy Manners Gavin – Daughters Cassi Gavin
Email: bgavin@cableone.net
Phone: 662-574-0295

Crime is the largest issue for ward 6. We must reduce crime such as theft. Other issues are speeding, drainage, trash pick-up and street paving.

I am an incumbent for all of Columbus. The city receives a major tax run, ditches overflow and the overflow water block the streets. The water runs into citizens yards and the water overflows to our city and making visual changes in the Highway 45 corridor to help attract these business to Columbus.

Columbus Precinct Polling Places

Ward 1
Southside Church
2201 Eighth Ave. S., Columbus

Ward 2
Fire Station No. 1
205 Seventh St. S., Columbus

Ward 3
Propast Community Hut
205 South St., Caledonia

Ward 4
Stephen Chapel Church
2008 Seventh Ave. N., Columbus

Caledonia Precinct Polling Place

Caledonia Community Center, 205 South St., Caledonia
**William Darnell**

**Occupation:** Security Manager at The Park Commission  
**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Energy Management  
**Political experience:** Former Caledonia Parks and Recreation Director  
**Family:** Married to Karen with two adult children, grandchildren  
**Email:** WilliamDarnell53@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 662-402-7901

William Darnell is a lifelong resident of Caledonia, having grown up in the town with his family. He attended Caledonia High School and later completed a Bachelor of Science in Energy Management from Mississippi State University. His career has been dedicated to the town, serving as the former Caledonia Parks and Recreation Director for many years. He has a deep understanding of the town's needs and infrastructure, making him an asset in addressing its challenges.

**Blake Darnell**

**Occupation:** Graphic Designer  
**Education:** Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design  
**Political experience:** Former member of the Caledonia Parks and Recreation Commission  
**Family:** Married to Jennifer with two children  
**Email:** blakedarnell@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 662-251-8275

Blake Darnell is a graphic designer by training and has a deep passion for the creative aspects of design. His work has been recognized locally and nationally, and he brings a unique perspective to his campaign. He is committed to using his skills to enhance the town's public spaces and events, making Caledonia a more vibrant and attractive place to live.

**Amanda Boltwood**

**Occupation:** Graphic Designer  
**Education:** Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design  
**Political experience:** Former member of the Caledonia Parks and Recreation Commission  
**Family:** Married to Josh with two children  
**Email:** amandaboltwood@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 662-251-8275

Amanda Boltwood is a passionate graphic designer with a strong background in visual communication. She has a unique ability to translate ideas into visually appealing designs, which she will utilize to enhance the town's public spaces and events. Her dedication to her community is evident in her previous service on the Parks and Recreation Commission, where she has worked to improve the town's infrastructure and public spaces.

**Jason Chrest**

**Occupation:** Graphic Designer  
**Education:** Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design  
**Political experience:** Former member of the Caledonia Parks and Recreation Commission  
**Family:** Single  
**Email:** jasonchrest@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 662-251-8275

Jason Chrest is a seasoned graphic designer with a strong background in visual communication. He brings a fresh perspective to the town, having previously served on the Parks and Recreation Commission. His dedication to his community is evident in his previous service, where he worked to improve the town's public spaces and infrastructure. His expertise will be an asset in enhancing the town's visual appeal and making it a more attractive place to live.
Independent

Matt Furnari

Occupation: Owner of Linn's Apartments, LLC; Mississippi State University; University of Mississippi

Political experience: 4 years, 1 term as Alderman for the Town of Caledonia

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: mtb_mccool@bellsouth.com; robertjacobs15@bellsouth.com

Phone: 662-574-2704

Son – Mark Furnari, Son – Jack Furnari

Caledonia is a wonderful town and has several great qualities that can ensure it stays that way. Our biggest challenge is maintaining the assets that we attract people to Caledonia, while at the same time improving upon them. Our park is a wonderful facility that has gone through many improvements over the last five years. In conjunction with the park board, Caledonia needs to continue to find funding opportunities to improve and grow the park through both facility improvement and child participation. A second part of maintaining and maximizing our assets is getting your earnings and property taxes paid with businesses that can thrive. That needs to be a focus of the new board. Lastly, continuing to build upon improved infrastructure to help attract people and businesses to Caledonia.

Robert Linn Jacobs

Occupation: Operator at Mississippi Medical Center; University of Southern Mississippi

Education: Bachelors degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi; MS - Criminal Justice from Mississippi State University

Political experience: 20 years, 2 terms as Alderman for the Town of Caledonia

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: mmccool@bellsouth.com

Phone: 662-574-3744

I believe 3D capitalizing on the growth around Caledonia. There is a lot of development along the I-55 corridor. In Caledonia, we are a good radius of this focus. We need to figure out how to make the most of these opportunities. This could mean not only helping us retain our current businesses but also attracting new businesses as well. We have plenty of vacant buildings so this should not be the concern. We need to figure out how to keep these potential investors interested in Caledonia inside a five mile radius of this town. We need to keep our current businesses and bring in new businesses. The biggest challenge is the infrastructure. Traffic and sanitary sewer are two things we really need to improve. The state has not helped us retain our current businesses but also attract new businesses as well. We need to support our current business to ensure a safe and solid community.

Joey Pounders

Occupation: Operator at Mississippi State University

Education: Mississippi State University

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: ljponders@bellsouth.net

Phone: 662-251-5088

I love the “small town feel” here. That’s one of what most areas of ours got that is gone. People are here to keep Caledonia busy, but I wouldn’t want to see a lot of drop in the local traffic. It is so nice that the school and the park are huge attractions to our town. “You can utilize that! Managing the growth could mean bringing in new businesses, potentially expanding town limits, or just make some moves that will allow us to prosper.

Tommy McCourt

Occupation: Package Store, Family-owned business since 1982

Education: Caledonia High School, Graduated 1986

Political experience: Caledonia City Council, Linn's Apartments, LLC

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: mmccool@bellsouth.com; robertjacobs15@bellsouth.com

Phone: 662-574-3744

Infrastructure is our biggest challenge. We have a great town and a safe community with a highly rated school system. Here in Caledonia, we have an easy commute to great jobs located within the Greater Jackson area. People are seeing how amazing this community is and are wanting to call it home. With growth comes change and with change comes unforeseen obstacles. We all know that most communities in which they have never become outdated and our infrastructure has become outdated and fall all. I am looking to keep an open mind about how we talk about these ideas. I am a firm believer in not being afraid of change. I believe that if we support our community and the park are huge attraction to our town. I want to see it get busy with industrial growth. I would like to see us continue to work with and support them to ensure a safe community.

Mitchell “Mitch” Wiggins

Occupation: Current Mayor of Caledonia; Paramedic

Education: Bachelor’s degree in Business Management - MUW; Mississippi State College of Osteopathic Medicine; Community College; Caledonia Public Schools (through the E-3 program)

Political experience: 8 years, 3 terms as Alderman, currently serving as Mayor

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: mitch237@gmail.com

Phone: 662-549-2132

Caledonia is a bigger challenge, like other Mississippi cities, our size is aging infrastructure. The town has lots of housing outside the box for creative new ways to utilize the space and make it more efficient. This we cannot complete these projects without estimating these issues with a long term plan.

Tammy McCourt

Occupation: Operator at Mississippi State University

Education: University of Mississippi

Political experience: Plan for the Future

Political philosophy: Independent

Email: calcolola@bellsouth.net

Phone: 662-251-5088

The Town of Caledonia has always had a wonderful working relationship with the Lowndes County Supervisors, School Districts (Lowndes County Schools and the Lowndes County School Board). The Town has been fortunate to have received extra funding for our Park and Recreation over the years from the Lowndes County Board of Supervisors. The County has always graciously helped us maintain our streets and sidewalks. This help has been greatly appreciated by our Aldermen and Citizens. We would like to continue to work with the Caledonia Marshal Department, Fire and Rescue Department. I would like to continue to build on this relationship and work with the Lowndes County School Board. The Caledonia Marshal Department, Fire and Rescue Department. I would like to continue to build on this relationship and work with the Lowndes County School Board. We live in a society now where people want to utilize the resources that we have available to us to bring jobs and better opportunities to our town. If elected as Alderman, I would like to continue to work with the Caledonia Marshal Department, Fire and Rescue Department. I would like to continue to build on this relationship and work with the Lowndes County School Board. We live in a society now where people want to utilize the resources that we have available to us to bring jobs and better opportunities to our town. I would like to be important to our town and how we grow and help our new businesses come to Caledonia and would provide more tax base for our town budget.

Alderman (continued)

1. What is the biggest challenge facing Caledonia?

2. How can the town continue to enhance its relationship with the county?

3. In what ways should Caledonia manage its growth?
Ben Carver (I)

age 17; Knox C. Williams, son, Alexandra L. Williams, daughter, 
Family:

Residence: Ward 1 in 2017 (19 votes) missed winning the Alderman for Political experience: 

(dissertation in progress) 
Occupation: Candidate in Public Policy MSU earned 2012. Doctoral Policy and Administration from the University of Georgia Criminal Justice and Sociology 

L. Christine Williams

Lynn Spruill (I)

Occupation: Lecturer at MSU Education: Bachelor’s of Arts - Criminal Justice and Sociology from the University of Georgia earned 1998. Master of Public Policy and Administration from MSU earned 2012. Doctoral Candidate in Public Policy and Administration at MSU (dissertation in progress) 

Political experience: Narrowly missed winning the Alderman for Ward 1 in 2017 (19 votes) 

Residence: 23 Lakes Boulevard, Starkville Family: Kevin D. Williams, husband since June 22, 1999; Alexanders L. Williams, daughter, age 17; Knox C. Williams, son, age 13. 

Email: vs2msu@gmail.com Phone: 662-617-4476

Ben Carver (I)

Occupation: Education: Political experience: 

Family: 

Email: Phone:

Jimmy Joe Buckley

Occupation: Political experience: 

Residence: 

Email: Phone:

Alderman Ward 1

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward? 

While Ward 1 has several areas that need attention and improvement, I would focus on the current lack of representation. Inadequate representation is most notably present in the Cotton District, which is our only African American neighborhood. The people who live there need someone who understands their daily struggles and can advocate for their needs. 

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville? 

Continuing the forward progress that I believe we have made over the past 4 years. The last 2 years of this term we spent directing our efforts to move forward with multiple and large projects. We have built a new city park, annexation, street improvement projects, infrastructure improvement projects, TAP grants and the BUILD grant. Those projects are in process and must be seen through to completion in the next 2-3 years. There have been a number of smaller initiatives that are important and need to be continued to see the city as a well-rounded place to live, work, play and learn. Those need to be considered and built upon for our current program to be sustained and our growth to continue. This is not the time to stop and rest. We need to continue to innovate and foster growth and development. 

I believe that we have been working to do that by balancing our efforts at a safety protocol with an openness for new plans, projects and ideas. We have seen council members step up and lead in different areas of the city. We have fielded questions and concerns from our citizens throughout the majority of the days of this pandemic and have only related the requirement for a mask for motor activities since he has dropped all other directives. It has also been our policy to work very closely with local businesses by temporarily relaxing our signage requirements during the pandemic and assisting those local businesses by putting up special parking for outside pickup options. We have not stopped in our planning so that when we are completely on the other side of the pandemic that we will be able to engage in the events and activities that have become our signature for being a great place to visit. 

The importance of what businesses need to be multifaceted and we need to be able to span the spectrum of how we can accommodate the needs of their workforce. We need to be in place where people want to live, work, play and learn. That is my city that accommodates the hierarchy of needs. We need to first and foremost be a safe city. Our nationally accredited police department and the city of 35,000 in the top 10 in all cities in the state of Mississippi. After that we need to be a great place for education for our children, a place that recognizes the need for the softer services of parks and recreation. We need to be a place where people feel proud to be residents and to call Starkville home. We need to be a place that is growing and looking to the future. 

3. How would you work to improve Starkville’s infrastructure? 

Flooding is a problem, and we need to address the sources and tasks that head on rather than simply continuing to repair the damaged areas. We must anticipate rather than react to those issues with regards to our streets and roadways. We will work to ensure that we set up and maintain a regular schedule to improve our streets so we can avoid major issues and repairs. Preventative maintenance is critical for long-term program success. Locating superfunds can minimize getting caught behind. 

We need an alderman who has the foresight to see how these issues are interconnected. Crumbling sewer and water lines lead to road and street issues. Refusing to support measures that pay for those repairs while not offering concrete alternative funding mechanisms is simply locking the can down the road, which will cost all of us more money in the long run.

Alderman Ward 2

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward? 

We have not been able to fully open up the city to work in the Cotton District that we enjoy so much today.

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville? 

While I stated on my website www.williamsforward1.com “We must continue to work with the Greater Starkville Development Partnership, Starkville Chamber of Commerce, Starkville Main Street Association, Starkville City Council and Visalia Bureau, Oktibbeha County Economic Development Authority, and Mississippi State University. While many cities and towns in Mississippi have seen dramatic population numbers, ours is growing. As that continues, we must focus on job creation and growth, a well-educated workforce, and revitalization of areas currently losing population. We must pay for infrastructure and maintenance is critical for long-term program success. Locating superfunds can minimize getting caught behind. 

Revitalization efforts are key as we remind of the efforts of former Mayor Dan Camp, who decades ago, began pursuing his vision for a better Starkville. He energized dilapidated buildings in a town no longer thriving areas of the city which over time resulted in the Cotton District that we enjoy so much today. 

3. How would you work to improve Starkville’s infrastructure? 

Flooding is a problem, and we need to address the sources and tasks that head on rather than simply continuing to repair the damaged areas. We must anticipate rather than react to those issues with regards to our streets and roadways. We will work to ensure that we set up and maintain a regular schedule to improve our streets so we can avoid major issues and repairs. Preventative maintenance is critical for long-term program success. Locating superfunds can minimize getting caught behind. 

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Republican

Ben Carver (I)

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Democrat

L. Christine Williams

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Republican

Ben Carver (I)

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Democrat

Lynn Spruill (I)

Term: 4 years, Annual salary: $20,000

Alderman Ward 1

Term: 4 years, Annual salary: $20,000

Alderman Ward 2

Term: 4 years, Annual salary: $20,000

Mayor

Q & A

1. What is the biggest challenge facing Starkville? 

2. How can city government work to help citizens and businesses emerge from the pandemic? 

3. What does Starkville need to do to attract future economic development? 

Term: 4 years, Annual salary: $75,000

Candidate is running unopposed

I = incumbent
**City of Starkville**

**Alderman Ward 2 (continued)**

1. **What is the biggest challenge facing your ward?**

   There are several big challenges facing Ward 2, including lack of access to transportation and training opportunities. We also have an serious problem with flooding and drainage issues that need to be addressed.

2. **How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville?**

   I would promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville by 1. identifying potential sites for development, 2. working with local businesses to identify their needs and interests, and 3. partnering with local and regional economic development organizations to attract new businesses to the area.

3. **How would you work to improve Starkville’s infrastructure?**

   To improve Starkville’s infrastructure, I would 1. prioritize maintenance on key infrastructure projects, 2. work with local officials to secure funding for infrastructure improvements, and 3. develop a comprehensive plan to address future infrastructure needs.

**Democrat**

**Sandra Sistruck (I)**

Occupation: Retired

Education: B.S., M.B.A. William & Mary

Political experience: Starkville City Council 2010-2019, 2021-present

Business experience: Owner of public service. First time

Political experience:

Public Policy (MSU)

Family:

of public service. First time

Education:

The Columbus Business Times,

Email:

662-484-5747

**Republican**

**Brub Stubb**

Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Education: Mississippi College

Political experience: None

Residence:

Longmeadow Subdivision

Occupation:

Real Estate Broker

Education: Mississippi College

Political experience:

First time

Education:

Residence:

Starkville

Occupation:

Real Estate Broker

Education: Mississippi College

Political experience: First time

Education:

Residence:

Starkville

Occupation:

Real Estate Broker

Education: Mississippi College

Political experience: First time

Education:

Residence:

Starkville

Occupation:

Real Estate Broker

Education: Mississippi College

Political experience: First time

Education:

Residence:

Starkville
Alderman Ward 4 (continued)

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward? There are many challenges facing Ward 4, but one of the most pressing is the lack of affordable housing. Many families are struggling to find affordable housing options in the area, and this can have a ripple effect on other issues such as crime and education. Another challenge is the need for better access to healthcare services, particularly for those living in more rural areas of the ward.

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville? To promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville, I believe it is important to work with local businesses and organizations to identify emerging industries and opportunities. This could involve connecting with potential investors, attending business conferences, and participating in economic development initiatives. Additionally, we must continue to invest in our infrastructure and public services to ensure that Starkville is a welcoming and attractive location for businesses.

3. How would you work to improve Starkville's infrastructure? To improve Starkville's infrastructure, I believe it is important to prioritize investments in our water and sewer systems. This could involve seeking additional funding opportunities, such as grants or bonds, to fund needed repairs and upgrades. Additionally, we must continue to address the issue of flooding in several areas of Starkville, as this can have negative impacts on the quality of life for residents. This may involve implementing storm water retention/mitigation design strategies or working with developers to ensure that new developments are built in a way that minimizes their impact on the surrounding environment.

Alderman Ward 5

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your ward? One of the biggest challenges facing Ward 5 is infrastructure. Our roadways and drainage systems are in need of repair and maintenance, and this can have a negative impact on the quality of life for our residents.

2. How would you promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville? To promote future industrial/commercial development in Starkville, I believe it is important to work with local businesses and organizations to identify emerging industries and opportunities. This could involve connecting with potential investors, attending business conferences, and participating in economic development initiatives. Additionally, we must continue to invest in our infrastructure and public services to ensure that Starkville is a welcoming and attractive location for businesses.

3. How would you work to improve Starkville's infrastructure? To improve Starkville's infrastructure, I believe it is important to prioritize investments in our water and sewer systems. This could involve seeking additional funding opportunities, such as grants or bonds, to fund needed repairs and upgrades. Additionally, we must continue to address the issue of flooding in several areas of Starkville, as this can have negative impacts on the quality of life for residents. This may involve implementing storm water retention/mitigation design strategies or working with developers to ensure that new developments are built in a way that minimizes their impact on the surrounding environment.

Democrat

Hamp Beatty (I) Occupation: MSU, Head of Government and Community Development Education: Master of Science, Ball State College, 1978 Political experience: Mayor for 13 years - Newton, MS, Alderman, Starkville for 1.5 years, Richland, MS, 112 St. Charles Ave, Starkville Family: Married - Wilma, Kim, Lauren, Brady, Bob & Diane- Parents; Whitney, TX Residency: 1522 South Links Rd. Phone: 662-312-7270 Email: KevinDaniel8@gmail.com

Republican

Kevin Daniels Occupation: Manager, Mississippi Integrated Technologies (MINT) Education: BS, Mississippi State University, Engineering, Mississippi State University Political experience: 20 years, of which 17 have been at Mississippi State Electrical Engineering 117 Grand Rd. Family: Bob & Diane- Parents; Greg, Brother; Emily-Spouse; Dan- Son Phone: 662-670-8416 Email: KevinDaniels8@gmail.com

Anna Chaney Occupation: Instructor, MSU, Department of Government and Community Development Education: Bachelor of Arts in Government and Community Development, Mississippi State University, Bachelor of Science, Science in Government and Community Development Political experience: Very little Residence: Oktibbeha Gardens, Starkville Family: Married, Nathan Chaney 8 years. Two young children, Joseph and Anna Chaney Phone: 662-726-3334

Brady Hindman Occupation: Political experience from Starkville, MS. Education: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Mississippi State University, Bachelor of Science in Community Development, Ball State University. Volunteering, advocacy for local families. Residence: 38 Chocloate Road, Starkville Family: Jordan E., daughter Phone: 662-726-3334 Email: saintes.ez@gmail.com

Sanctuary

Sanctuary Ezell Occupation: Assistant Director of Community Health Promotion & Wellness Education: Bachelor of Arts in Community Health Education from Mississippi State University. Currently teaching Health Promotion & Wellness and continue to build a town and gown relationship to help the community around Health infrastructure, we can enhance Ward 4 residents safety, security and quality of life.

As a team at the hospital, we need policies to protect the landscape, provide racism that is affordable to make investments, and incentivize those who are working to reduce our communities. In order to promote commercial and industrial development in a city with a university and community programs, we can work with the Starkville Board of Aldermen to help generate more businesses for working families and even college students. With a regional approach to economic development, Starkville should be completely resurfaced on the edge of Starkville's infrastructure like our commercial and industrial development in Starkville. I support a regional approach to economic development, Starkville and Oktibbeha County, Lowndes, and Clay, counties pooling resources and working together to sustain our infrastructure. We will continue to support regulations and strategies, Inc., to recruit new small businesses through Strategic Initiatives, our local economy will remain strong through the years. Our ward would like the opportunity to be more involved and "in the know" of what will take place in their Ward 4, and will increase volume and pressure for better infrastructure.

Currently, we have some great ideas in place to lead the improvement of Starkville's infrastructure like the city engineer and the leadership of Starkville Utilities. I would like to hear their recommendations and form a plan together to improve it. However, the answer to improve our infrastructure is not through the raising of taxes. Unfortunately, we have tough decisions to make concerning the allocation of funds. When a house is failed. This issue needs to be taken care of. If we want more industry and commercial development in Starkville, we need to show our interested by offering a low-cost infrastructure to our business. Starkville should take more control over how we can get more businesses here instead of how we can keep them out.

Critz is very currently facing problems due to increase in population of families with children, not to mention the actual population that is actively engaged in the community. This means directly addressing the services that improve the quality of life for our citizens. This will be accomplished by a monthly email chain to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of things taking place. This will be accomplished by a monthly email chain to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of things taking place. We must continue to support the Starkville Board of Aldermen. Over the last several years, Ward 6 and the Starkville community recovered from the economic downturn, and has made substantial improvements in the Ward 4 commercial district.

This means directly addressing the services that improve the quality of life for our citizens. This will be accomplished by a monthly email chain to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of things taking place. We must continue to support the Starkville Board of Aldermen. Over the last several years, Ward 6 and the Starkville community recovered from the economic downturn, and has made substantial improvements in the Ward 4 commercial district. Starkville should be working with relevant local resources, and aggressively seeking to attract new industry to the area. New industry will boost the local economy while establishing new opportunities for commercial business creation in the city. Lastly, high paying sustainable jobs brought by new industry will attract new residents to the city and create an opportunity to retain graduates from Mississippi State University.

As a city official, I would continue to work with Oktibbeha County, The Golden Triangle LUM, and the Mississippi Development Authority to recruit new manufacturing and high technology jobs to the Golden Triangle region. Starkville and Oktibbeha County have made substantial investments in the last several years that are fully funded that is fully developed and ready to attract new industry. I support a regional approach to industrial development with Oktibbeha County, Lowndes, and Clay, counties pooling resources and working together to sustain our infrastructure.

Lowndes, and Clay, counties pooling resources and working together to sustain our infrastructure. We will continue to support regulations and strategies, Inc., to recruit new small businesses through Strategic Initiatives, our local economy will remain strong through the years. Our ward would like the opportunity to be more involved and "in the know" of what will take place in their Ward 4, and will increase volume and pressure for better infrastructure.

Current problems in our ward include, lack of parking, flooding in several areas of Starkville. This is expensive to repair but I am sure to replace our 400 year old water and sewer lines, improvement for parks and recreation. This will be accomplished by a monthly email chain to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of things taking place. We must continue to support the Starkville Board of Aldermen. Over the last several years, Ward 6 and the Starkville community recovered from the economic downturn, and has made substantial improvements in the Ward 4 commercial district.

With such an assorted collection of commercial and entertainment areas in Starkville, Mississippi State University, and the Starkville cotton district, Starkville is currently facing numerous issues. As a 10-year resident of Starkville, I feel like the ward faces a number of challenges that need to be addressed. With such an assorted collection of commercial and entertainment areas in Starkville, Mississippi State University, and the Starkville cotton district, Starkville is currently facing numerous issues. As a 10-year resident of Starkville, I feel like the ward faces a number of challenges that need to be addressed. With such an assorted collection of commercial and entertainment areas in Starkville, Mississippi State University, and the Starkville cotton district, Starkville is currently facing numerous issues. As a 10-year resident of Starkville, I feel like the ward faces a number of challenges that need to be addressed.

If we want more industry and commercial development in Starkville, we need to show our interested by offering a low-cost infrastructure to our business. Starkville should take more control over how we can get more businesses here instead of how we can keep them out.
Alderman Ward 6 (continued)

Democrat

Roy A. Perkins (I)

Occupation: Education:

Political experience: Residence:

Family: Email:

Phone:

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Alderman Ward 7

Democrat

Henry Vaughn (I)

Occupation: Education:

Political experience: Residence:

Family: Email:

Phone:

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

April 6, 2021

Primary Sample Ballot

CITY OF STARKVILLE

MAYOR

ALDERMAN AT LARGE

ALDERMAN WARD 2

ALDERMAN WARD 3

ALDERMAN WARD 4

ALDERMAN WARD 5

ALDERMAN WARD 6

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Starkville Precinct Polling Places

Ward 1

National Guard Armory

Ward 2

Starkville Sportsplex

Administration Building, 405 Lynn Lane, Starkville

Ward 3

Starkville Sportsplex

Administration Building, 405 Lynn Lane, Starkville

Ward 4

Needmore Center

610 E. Gipson St., Starkville

Ward 5

Fire Station No. 3

108 W. Main St., Starkville

Ward 6

Mt. Pelier Missionary Baptist Church

108 W. Main St., Starkville

Ward 7

Oktibbeha County Courthouse Annex

108 W. Main St., Starkville

CITY OF MACON

MAYOR

ALDERMAN AT LARGE

ALDERMAN WARD 1

ALDERMAN WARD 2

ALDERMAN WARD 3

ALDERMAN WARD 4

ALDERMAN WARD 5

ALDERMAN WARD 6

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

Macon Precinct Polling Place

Ward 1

Macon Fire Station

8565 Pearl St., Macon

Call Beth Profitt at 662-352-1560 or e-mail bprofitt@cdispatch.com

All advertising text must be paid in advance.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021
**City of West Point**

**Q&A**

**Democrat**

**Rod Bobo**

Occupation: State Farm Insurance Agent

Education: Bachelor of Business Administration at Mississippi State University

Political experience: City of West Point

Residence: West Point, MS

Family: 2 beautiful daughters

Email: rodbobomayor@gmail.com

Phone: 662-574-5080

In my estimation the biggest challenge facing West Point is it's diminishing population and tax base. We also have some socioeconomic challenges.

I feel that the best thing West Point can do to emerge from the pandemic is to follow the advice of the CDC and Dr. Tom Dobbs. We also need to use common sense tactics to protect ourselves and others.

West Point needs to continue with the agreement that's currently in place with the Link. We also need to work to improve the economic climate locally that facilitates economic development and substantive growth.

**Cole Bryan**

Occupation: Addiction Recovery Educator

Education: Houston Christian, Mississippi State

Political experience: No elected office, active in organizations to serve people

Residence: West Point

Family: Wife Nealy Bryan

Email: cole@votecolebryan.com

Phone: 662-701-988

Embracing the quality of life for all residents is our biggest challenge. Maintaining the quality of our schools, creating more jobs for our people, and improving our streets and public areas to keep West Point clean, safe, and attractive are local. We will achieve all of this with budget controls and fiscal responsibility.

Our absolute biggest challenge is to foster growth and prosperity in our local business. We must create more jobs for our young people because, unfortunately, many of them are leaving our area.

The city has had a shrinking tax base and I would like to help redirect the jobs and opportunities for our people. West Point is already a wonderful place to live and work, and it is time for our city and its residents to thrive in all areas.

I believe in our future leaders, and that our police and work to help citizens and communities.

**Tommy Parkinson**

Occupation: Owner of Image Makers Hair Salon for 34 years

Education: West Point city schools, Vaughns Beauty College, EMCC

Political experience: Campaign manager for his father Homer Ryland Sr.

Residence: West Point

Family: Husband Jamie Parkinson, son Chris Freeman and Bailey Ross, three grandchildren

Phone: votetammyparkinson@gmail.com

West Point needs economic growth, i.e., jobs, and nice and at least restaurants added to our community and a handle to keep up along with drainage and flooding issues in areas.

I believe as more and more people are receiving their immunization for the preventive care-against COVID we will begin to emerge from this pandemic.

I believe that in order to attract future economic growth we need to clean up our city and take pride in our area as a community as we make sure our businesses are getting the best education as they are our future leaders, and that our police department has what it needs to serve and protect West Point keeping all of us safe and where everyone is treated equal and fair.

**Independent**

**Homer Ryland Jr.**

Occupation: Owner of Image Makers Hair Salon for 34 years

Education: West Point city schools, Vaughns Beauty College, EMCC

Political experience: Campaign manager for his father Homer Ryland Sr.

Residence: West Point

Family: Wife Brenda Ryland, son Jamie, daughters Jakarta and Jasmine

Email: homeylandy@gmail.com

Phone: Did not fully complete the questionnaire

One of the biggest challenges is that the city is not fully being heard on significant issues which impact them daily. At times the city will just get a pitch delivered at for someone after a couple of complaints, but it is where there is no evidence of the efforts being made to listen respectfully and act accordingly to the expressed needs of the citizens? West Point has been out of relevancy for noticeable development, innovation, and change, and with what they continue to receive instead is a tick and a promise. It is definitely a difference we need to serve our city towards substantial change. We need to be free to make our own future instead of the one Jackson has decided for us, we aren't Jackson's piggy bank.

As we emerge from this pandemic we need to educate our young people. We need work to help citizens and communities.

**Constitution**

Jennifer Harper

Occupation: Independent, Human Resources Education: Bachelor Degree Business Administration

Political experience: United States

Email: 662-312-4341

Phone:

One of the biggest challenges is that the city is not fully being heard on significant issues which impact them daily. At times the city will just get a pitch delivered at for someone after a couple of complaints, but it is where there is no evidence of the efforts being made to listen respectfully and act accordingly to the expressed needs of the citizens? West Point has been out of relevancy for noticeable development, innovation, and change, and with what they continue to receive instead is a tick and a promise. It is definitely a difference we need to serve our city towards substantial change. We need to be free to make our own future instead of the one Jackson has decided for us, we aren’t Jackson’s piggy bank.

As we emerge from this pandemic we need to educate our young people. We need work to help citizens and communities.

Our leadership must join with city and county governments to ensure that a sustainable city is standing up to Jackson, demanding bottom-up governance. We decide how much revenue we will keep within our borders, and how much is taxed. In FY2020, because of the way the state sales tax was established in 1930, our city was allowed to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allowed’ to keep $2.35 million of the $13.8 million collected. When our city was ‘allow
**Selectman Ward 1**

**Democrat**

**Linda Hannah**

- Occupation: 
- Education: 
- Political experience: 
- Residence: 
- Family: 
- Email: 
- Phone: 

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

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**Selectman Ward 2**

**Democrat**

**William Binder (I)**

- Occupation: 
- Education: 
- Political experience: 
- Residence: 
- Family: 
- Email: 
- Phone: 

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

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**Selectman Ward 3**

**Democrat**

**Jonas Robinson**

- Occupation: Contractor, Project Manager. 
- Education: College 2 years. 
- Political experience: none. 
- Residence: West Point. 
- Family: Married with 3 children. 
- Email: jrockrob@yahoo.com. 
- Phone: 662-295-1194. 

West Point is a community with a wide age range of residents, and we must be sure we’re reaching them where they are, whether it's the newspaper, social media or distributing communication in a more personal way. We need to continue to grow industries and jobs to improve economic conditions and the overall well-being of our residents. We also need to take advantage of opportunities nearby that could bring people to our community to stay, eat and shop. Our schools have seen a year of great change, and we need to support our teachers and students as they adjust to a more typical learning experience. Concern for the future generations of West Pointians is priority.

We need to keep communication flowing in regard to health guidelines and vaccinations. It's important to focus on the local community and how sickness is affecting us at a local level. We want the community to enjoy life and our great businesses in a way that they are comfortable, wearing masks, providing hand sanitizers and wipes, and options for the more vulnerable to get what they need to avoid exposure. We want people to be careful and comfortable but not unnecessarily fearful.

It begins with leadership and teamwork. The board of supervisors, mayor and city selectman must work together to create a climate that produces new industry and existing industry expansion. The Prairie Belt Power site is a big piece to our growth. The city and the county need to work together to continue maximizing opportunities in that area to provide needed infrastructure to support industry. Our continued support of the Golden Triangle Development LINK for industry retention and growth and working with local industries to assist them wherever we can is vital. And beautification is certainly beneficial to making our community inviting for residents, visitors and new business.

**Q & A**

1. What’s the biggest challenge facing West Point? 
2. How can city government work to help citizens and businesses emerge from the pandemic? 
3. What does West Point need to do to attract future economic development?

**Leta Turner (I)**

- Occupation: 
- Education: 
- Political experience: 
- Residence: 
- Family: 
- Email: 
- Phone: 

Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.

**Did not submit answers to the questionnaire.**

**City of West Point**

**Selectman Ward 1**

1. What’s the biggest challenge facing West Point? 
2. How can city government work to help citizens and businesses emerge from the pandemic? 
3. What does West Point need to do to attract future economic development?

1. What’s the biggest challenge facing West Point? 
2. How can city government work to help citizens and businesses emerge from the pandemic? 
3. What does West Point need to do to attract future economic development?
CITY OF WEST POINT

April 6, 2021
Primary Sample ballot

PRIMARY ELECTION

Mayoral candidates

- Red Bledsoe
- Dale Bryan
- Tommy Parkerson

Selectman Ward 1

- Linda Hansell
- Laa Turner

Selectman Ward 2

- William Bender
- Ken Paule
- Jenessa Redman

Selectman Ward 3

- Kevin McKnight

Selectman Ward 4

- Colby Pennington
- Jasper "Peicy" Pittman
- Jonas Robinson
- Ken Poole
- William Binder
- Leta Turner
- Cole Bryan
- Rod Bobo

Primary Election - April 6, 2021
General Election - June 8, 2021
Polls are open until 7 p.m.

Help make your community a better place.

DON’T FORGET TO VOTE.

Every vote counts!