

# East Bethel Candidate Profile



**Candidate Name:** *Ardie Anderson*

**Office Sought:** *Mayor*

## **Bio:**

As a lifelong resident of East Bethel (Coon Lake), I have spent over 60 years watching our community grow and take shape. My wife Debra of 40 years and I have made many friends throughout the community over the years, and this is the reason we have remained here. We have three lovely daughters and five beautiful grandkids who live in the area supporting us with love.

I thoroughly enjoy this community, its residents and value my neighbors. You, my neighbors, are the reason I have chosen to run for Mayor. I want to keep East Bethel a great place to set roots, raise a family and watch them blossom. As your Mayor, I promise to be open minded and strive to bring back the integrity and dignity we residents deserve.

I am a retired commercial roofing company owner and supervisor. I spent the last 35 years roofing high rise buildings in Minneapolis and St. Paul. As a supervisor I spent most of my time coordinating jobs, crews, and materials while keeping an ongoing schedule. In addition to working full time, I also committed 40 years of my life to residents of East Bethel volunteering on the East Bethel Fire Department.

I joined as a volunteer firefighter in 1982 where I learned invaluable lessons about teamwork and trust in your fellow team members and firefighters. After nearly six years, I was promoted to Assistant Chief and the Chief where I served in that role for 17 years. In 2007 they hired a full time Chief who I work under as the Deputy Chief until I retired in 2022. During my time as the Chief I prepared budgets and policy's for five different councils and 3 City administrators. While devoting my time to the community as a firefighter, our department goals were to save lives, protect property, and protect the environment.

Some of my accomplishments during this time with the fire department include, but are not limited to:

- I served as lead designer, pricing and acquisition of every fire truck currently stationed in East Bethel.
- I served as Lead designer assisting architects in the design and building of all three of East Bethel Fire Stations.
- I served as the Director for the Region 7 Fire District and held a seat on the board of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association.
- At the direction of the City Administrator, I was tasked with coordinating, organizing and educating residents on the much-needed 2004 voter approved referendum to replace the 40-year-old fire and maintenance building which included the addition of 15 city wide warning sirens.
- My experience also afforded me the opportunity to save residents tax dollars by writing, applying and securing equipment replacement grant awards over the years. The largest of which was an Assistance to Firefighters FE-MA grant award for \$252,100.00.

My passion for Public Service, Public Safety Experience, Leadership, business experience and most importantly my life long commitment to this fine community are unmeasurable. I will work hard and make sure your voice is heard.

I'm asking for your support and vote this November to bring back the stability, common sense and accountability we residents deserve.

Thanks, Ardie Anderson

