

East Bethel Candidate Profile



Candidate Name: Jim Smith

Office Sought: City Council Member

Bio:

Hi East Bethel Residents & Businesses

I am running for City Council.

In my opinion the City is out of Control with there spending. If you take a look at the Monthly Bills there are lots of the months the Bills are well over \$100,000 + that's totally unbelievable. The real sad part is there are not hardly any questions from City Council about what the Bills are for? They Just approve to Pay without explanation. Our City is so far in debt I don't know if we can ever get out. I have been told that the City Sewer and water Bill we owe is 30 Million + WOW in my Opinion this disaster should have never happened. I have some ideas how to get rid of some of the debt. But I know we can't be spending money foolishly but that is still going on right now.

I will also work on getting the Transparency back in the City Council that all residents deserve. I have spoken with a lot of residents in our City and a lot of our residents no longer Trust the City Leaders and in my Opinion that is truly sad. This has to be fixed immediately. All of our residents should at anytime be able to speak at any Council meeting, and also should be able to speak there concerns without being cut off by City Council, Just because some of the City Council members don't want to listen. I will work on getting our public forum televised back for all of our residents to be able to watch and hear. I don't understand why would we silence our residence?

I have been on the Roads Commission and the Planning Commission. When I raised my right hand to take the oath to represent the Residents and the Businesses and the City of East Bethel I took that oath Seriously. What I have experienced 1st hand is when you start to ask questions and even if you have all the facts it doesn't matter you must Vote along with rest of the members. Wrong answer not me. I am not a follower and never have been or will be. I will work with the City Council but we all need to do our own research for the facts so we can all come up with a reasonable solution to the situation at hand.

I have been a long time resident of East Bethel since 1978 when I purchased my first property here. I have never been involved with the City Government until 2016 when a company called CST was trying to purchase the land behind Cooper's Corner to build a new mulch company. This Mulch Company would have been right across the street from a residential development. When I heard about this I started the first Petition to stop this from happening and had about 320 + signatures against this in just a few short days. This business would have destroyed the whole North end of East Bethel. The City Council was going to approve this business at this time without doing any research what so ever. Myself and with a lot of help from a lot of Great people and Neighbors it took us 4 months but we stopped this total disaster Mulch Business from coming in the wrong area of our City. There are still 3 City Council Members on the City Council right now that were going to Vote Yes for this Business until we did there job and research for them to get them to change there Vote to a NO.

Since 2016 I can probably count on one hand how many City Council and Planning Commission meetings I have missed because I am Concerned of the decisions made by this City Council and the Planning Commission. I also believe that the majority of the residents moved up to East Bethel to get away from all the rules and regulations that the big cities have and so we can enjoy the countly living. I don't agree with all the New rules trying to be brought in against our residents. Stop trying to control our residents lives with big city rules. We the residents do have an oppo1tunity this year to Change out most of the Old City Council members and we have a Great chance to get New and Fresh Ideas for our City that we really need so we can try to get our residents to Trust the City Council that they are going to listen to the residents and work for our residents like we are supposed to do. In my opinion the City Council is here to Serve the Residents and the Businesses not to serve the Council members own agenda. There are many issues that need to be addressed and I will do my Best for all the residents and the Businesses to help with concerns they may have. The residents need to know that we are there for them.

I am asking for your Vote on November 8 2022 this year.

Thank You, Jim Smith

