

East Bethel Candidate Profile



Candidate Name: Kevin Lewis

Office Sought: City Council Member,
Special Election

Bio:

As a 26 year resident of East Bethel (Coon Lake) I appreciate the area we live in and the quality of people we have for neighbors. A solid foundation to build on, for sure. I have been happily married to Linda for 40 years, and we are close friends with our adult children, Danielle and Cole who also live in the Twin Cities and who have great memories of growing up in East Bethel.

I'm retired now, but my 40+ year work experience included agribusiness (conventional and organic,) mergers & acquisitions, corporate planning, and cabinetmaking. My education includes a B.A. in Economics and a M.S. in Agricultural Economics from University of Illinois. In addition to fishing and hiking, I enjoy riding and wrenching on my 1985 Honda Goldwing motorcycle.

Most people I know in this area simply want local government that is honest, transparent, and responsive to its citizens. City Councils are elected to represent the residents of a town and are to manage the hired staff, not the other way around. We need strong, knowledgeable, citizen-oriented City Council members.

Recently, I've posted "East Bethel Fun Facts" on East Bethel oriented Facebook websites to let fellow residents/neighbors know of some of the challenges facing our city: Large indebtedness due to the "Sewer System to Nowhere," high city government operating expenses as compared to Ham Lake, and an apparent willingness to allow unelected and unaccountable entities like the Metropolitan Council control our destiny. No, thanks!

The good news is that we can change course with the right people on our City Council. In my case, being retired I can dedicate the time to perform proper DUE DILIGENCE on matters that come before us and support fellow Council members with such work. My background is business-oriented and analytical, which is sorely needed if we want to build the business base of East Bethel, and not get fleeced in the process. We've had enough of that already!

East Bethel is a fine place to live, with good folks who deserve honest, responsive government. It is NOT too much to expect it!

Best Wishes, Kevin

