

132nd Town Committee

RE: The Vacancy in the Office of City Council for the 132nd District

Due to the unfortunate passing of Councilwoman Mary Evette Brantley, there exists a vacancy in the Office of City Council for the 132nd District. While the 132nd Town Committee would have welcomed the opportunity for a special election to fill the seat, the clear language of the City Charter directs the City Council to fill the vacancy with a Democratic elector of the district by majority vote. While this leaves the 132nd Town Committee with no formal or legal role in the process, it is the tradition that the town committee of the district in which a vacancy exists makes a recommendation to the City Council on who that person should be.

In order to appropriately exercise this advisory function, the 132nd Town Committee has decided to give potential candidates an opportunity to express interest in the position and be vetted prior to the Council's consideration of the matter. Any 132nd Town Committee members interested in the position must recuse themselves from the vetting process. The Town Committee will forward all materials collected in the process to the City Council for its consideration, and may by majority vote endorse one of the candidates. Ultimately, the City Council will use its discretion pursuant to its Charter powers to fill the vacancy.

While the Charter only limits the potential candidates to fill the vacancy to registered Democrats who live in the 132nd District, the Town Committee has decided to add the following criteria for the purposes of exercising its advisory function:

- No City employee will be considered for the 132nd Town Committee endorsement;
- The candidate should have been a Democratic elector within the 132nd District as of November 18, 2021. Candidates who switched their registration to Democrat or moved into the district at a later time will not be considered for the endorsement;
- Preference will be given to a candidate who resides in the Bassick precinct, since Councilman Brown currently resides in the Central precinct.

What to Submit: Short Questionnaire (attached) and a resume highlighting civic/community engagement.

How to Submit: Email all materials and contact information to ThomasGaudett@gmail.com

Timeline:

- Wednesday, December 15th by 8pm* – Deadline to submit questionnaire and resume.
- Friday, December 17th after 5pm* – Interviews to be scheduled with the 132nd Town Committee; Discussion of candidates and potential vote to endorse a candidate.

Questionnaire *(Attach additional pages as needed)*

- 1. Name:**
- 2. Party Affiliation as of 11/18/2021:**
- 3. Address (where registered to vote) as of 11/18/2021:**
- 4. Please state your interest in the Office of City Council for the 132nd District? Why do you want to be on the City Council?**

5. Please tell us about your qualifications for the Office of City Council, with a focus on your past civic/community involvement.

6. As a Councilperson, what would your priorities be while on the Council, including issues that you think are most important to the residents of the 132nd District?

7. Please attach a resume.

Note: At the interview, please come prepared to talk about your answers to these questions, as well as others about your time commitments, understanding of the City Council duties, etc.