

Contact Information

* Name
Bryan Flavin

* Home Address*
806 Westover Drive, Staunton VA 24401

*You must be registered to vote in the City of Staunton. You can determine this by checking your voter card or by calling the Voter Registration Office at 540.332.3840.

Phone

Mobile Phone

* Email

Qualifications

* **How long have you resided in the Commonwealth of Virginia?**
45 years

* **How long have you resided in the City of Staunton?**
23 years and 10 months

Have you ever been elected or appointed as an Officer or Commissioner for the City of Staunton?
No

* **Please indicate why you are interested in serving on City Council:**
See attached PDF document.

* **Please indicate areas of your experience and knowledge that you see as important for consideration of your application for appointment:**
It is essential to have someone who knows how the city works and can relate to all its citizens. That is an area where I excel. I have always treated people with dignity and respect. I also have an intimate knowledge of city government, having worked in it for almost 18 years. Having someone who knows the council's vision is extremely important, and I like to feel that my views align with the council's. My experience working within and outside the system to achieve goals is very important; I have done this successfully. Finding solutions and asking questions to get all the information needed to make good decisions that benefit the city and its citizens have to factor into any candidate; I have those skills and am willing to use them.

* **Please list any relevant leadership skills or educational training:**
This position does not require a particular educational requirement. Yet, it involves education about the city, its functions, diverse neighborhoods, and the people living there. That is important; if you cannot relate to the people you serve, then this is not the position for you. Leadership comes in many forms; managing a project and managing a home are great examples. There is no single key that makes one person a leader. Leading by example is extremely important. Am I a leader because I have tried to make sure my kids had every option available to them, and if they didn't, then asking why and worked to achieve those options. Is it working with various organizations to make our community better? A leader comes in many forms; the most boisterous person isn't necessarily a leader, while the one who works in the background to achieve their goals is.

Indicate if you are attaching additional information pertinent to this application.
Attachments are provided

Attachment
Why you are interested in serving on City Council.pdf

* **Digital Signature**
Bryan C Flavin.

* **Date and Time**
01/27/2023 1:08 PM

Be advised that upon submission, this application and supporting documents become a public document and will be published by the City of Staunton.

City Council Members,

I am not a suit type of person, but neither is Staunton. Staunton is somewhere steeped in history but also on the precipice of knowing that history is only one part of what our community needs to survive in the future. We are open for business; that is what our citizens have been expecting for years. Our citizens want to see progress and amenities they can enjoy here so they don't have to travel to neighboring communities.

I can read a budget and have strong feelings about how the people's money is spent. The wallets and purses of our citizens are not open so that this project or that project can be funded. We also need to look closer at the types of grants we get and make sure they make sense for Staunton, not just now but in the future. I know progress costs money, but we need to find a way that takes the burden off our citizens; there is so much they can handle, especially now.

I have lived in Staunton for almost 24 years and worked for the city for nearly 18 years. I know how our workforce has been treated and should be treated. I know that everything hasn't been roses in the past where our employees are concerned, but we need to take into account that they are the ones who make management and council look good or, on the flip side, bad. Decisions that are made by management and the council have consequences on employees and citizens, and we need to be keenly aware of this. The simple act of asking questions is sometimes lost during council meetings, but it needs to happen to ensure that enough information is being shared to make a decision that has lasting effects.

I have three daughters with my wife of 24 years. Two are away at college in degree programs that hopefully offer them prosperous careers; my youngest is in the eighth grade at Shelburne Middle School. I have what feels like decades of experience dealing with our school system and its leaders. We need to act as partners with Staunton City Schools because the kids that go through our school system are our future. We must keep sight of that.

I get excited by recognizing needs and finding ways to make those needs become a reality. A few years ago, my daughters played recreation and high school softball; their home field was in Montgomery Hall Park. Our softball program doesn't get the stadium treatment that boy's baseball received, and let's face it, their home field was two dugouts, a field, and a small shed-type building that sometimes doubled as a concession stand when it was open. There were and still are many needs that most other schools have, but because we played in the public park, the school made a minimal investment. A few needs were a state-of-the-art batting cage and a simple flag pole that our girls could salute before the game to show pride in the country. To make these things possible, I approached our parks and recreation department, which supported the project, and I went to the community to get funding. I approached every person and business I could, and by the end, I had raised the funding to complete these two simple but expensive additions. As a bonus, as part of the fundraising effort, the contributors were promised

banners, which filled up the entire outfield fencing. It showed our girls that the community believed in them. That was special, and more of those things need to happen. That was the community coming together to make a small difference.

In closing, I would love to sit on the council and serve my community if you see fit. Thank you,

Bryan C. Flavin

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