

2017 COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Jeff Kopecky

My name is Jeff Kopecky and I have decided to run for city council. For some background, my wife and I have lived in Urbana for about 19 years and raised two daughters here. I am an 18 year member of IBEW 405 in Cedar Rapids. After attending council meetings as a citizen of Urbana off and on for most of those 19 years I decided it was time to see if I could better help by being a member of the city council instead of just watching from the side lines so to speak. While attending meetings as a citizen I have seen many good things done and some I completely disagree with. I do think there should be more fiscal responsibility with the tax money of Urbana residents. I would also like to see an ambulance back in Urbana especially if we get an assisted living complex in town as well as for the citizens of Urbana. We have a well equipped fire department and police department, maybe now is the time to bring an ambulance service of some capacity back to Urbana. I would appreciate your vote and thank you.

Jacki Michael

If you are taking the time to read the candidate bios, it's because you care as much about Urbana as I do. You also want what is best for our City and I do too. I am running again to retain my seat on the council that I have held for the past 4 years. It is a very exciting time to be part of our great town! Urbana is very lucky to have highly trained professional department heads and their staff to include Public Works, Police Department and City Clerk's Office. These 3 departments, along with the Mayor and Council work behind the scenes to help our town grow and prosper. Laird's addition of 29 lots is a great testament to all involved in making this happen! It takes all of us working together to make these improvements a reality. Urbana is also lucky to have the Visioning Committee working hard to beautify our town and put on the Sweet Corn Days celebration. We also have a very proactive library board working on ideas to fund a library here. Urbana is also home to a very professionally trained Police Department and Fire Department to protect our City. The council works hand in hand to make sure that our infrastructure of public safety is the best around. Urbana has great potential for growth in the near future, and I respectfully ask for your vote so that I may continue with the vision for Urbana. Thank you for your support! Jacki Michael

Josh Holthaus

My name is Josh Holthaus, my wife Melissa and I have three children Abby, Brady and Andy. We moved to Urbana in 2007 when FedEx Freight moved their terminal here in Urbana. I have been employed by FedEx Freight for the last 12 years. I also drive school bus in the mornings for CPU. My wife Melissa also works at CPU as a paraprofessional here at the Intermediate building in Urbana. I would like to see more business in the three industrial parks we have in Urbana. Urbana is the perfect spot for businesses to centrally locate, which is why FedEx Freight is located here in Urbana. I also really like the work the Visioning Committee is doing and would like to help them with future projects.

Mike Kramer

My name is Mike Kramer and I am running for my 3rd term as an Urbana City council member. I am a lifelong resident of Urbana. I served in the United States Army 3rd Armored Division from 1968-1970, retired as Urbana Public Works Director after 30 years, served on the Urbana Fire Department for 25 years, am an active member of the American Legion Post 264, and am a member of St Mary's Catholic Church. I have been married to my wife Terrie Kramer for 46 years and have 1 son and 2 grandchildren.

Having been a public employee of this town and having served on the council previously, I have a very good knowledge of the inner workings of Urbana and a good understanding of what it takes to help maintain and encourage change within the town. We currently have some wonderful committees in our city that are working to better Urbana and I look forward to ensuring that our city gives them the resources that they need to bring about the economic growth and development our town needs. Urbana is growing and changing, and we as City Council members need to encourage that. Thank you.