

MEET THE CANDIDATES

ORCHARD PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

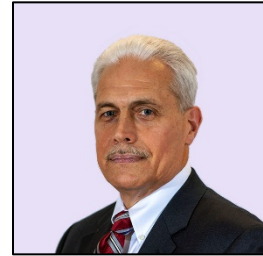
60 S. LINCOLN AVE.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 7:00 – 8:30 P.M.



Daniel Teplesky
Town Supervisor
Four Year Term

Town of Orchard Park SLATE OF CANDIDATES



Eugene Majchrzak
Town Supervisor
Four Year Term



Mary Penn
Town Council
Four Year Term



Mike Risman
Town Council
Four Year Term



Julia Mombrea
Town Council
Four Year Term



Joseph C. Liberti
Town Council
Four Year Term



Janis Colarusso
Town Council
Two Year Term



Andrew J. Slotman
Superintendent of Highways
Four Year Term



Scott J. Honer
Town Council
Two Year Term

Public Forum: Hosted by the Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce

This will be an opportunity for the citizens of Orchard Park to hear where the candidates stand on current issues affecting our town. Both parties will be allotted the same amount of time to address their views on specific pre-selected topics. No questions or open comments will be allowed from the audience. For more information call the OP Chamber @ 662-3366.

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RULES FOR CANDIDATES' NIGHT 2021

The purpose of our Candidates' Night is to introduce each person running for a Town Office to the public. This will be an organized format designed to highlight each parties' platform in a non-partisan venue. This will not be a debate style format, rather it will feature pre-selected questions that will be presented to each party prior to the event. The questions were compiled from feedback within the business community as well as from the general public. The issues that are being focused on are not meant to pit one side over the other. There are some critical topics affecting our community that need to be addressed to see the direction that each party is planning to take in dealing with these issues.

- The two Town Supervisor Candidates will be introduced and have 3 minutes to make an introductory statement.
- Each remaining candidate will be introduced and have 1 ½ minutes to make an introductory statement.
- After all of the introductions, the two parties will be seated at separate tables.
- We will then move on to the question-and-answer period. The pre-selected questions will be asked to both parties. The questions will be answered in an alternate rotation after an opening coin toss to determine who answers first. Each party gets 3 minutes to answer the question presented. The party itself will determine which representative will answer a specific question prior to the forum.
- There will be no mentioning of the opposing party in formulating your answers. The public is interested in what your party is going to do to implement solutions to the issues.
- The moderator will have the ability to mute a candidate that does not adhere to the time limitation as well as the rules of keeping their comments civil.
- There will be representatives in the auditorium to maintain a decorum to avoid outbursts from the audience. Questions or comments from the audience will not be allowed.
- After all of the questions are addressed, each party will have 3 minutes for a closing statement.

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this important forum and we hope that our community will be better prepared to make an educated decision regarding this year's election. Best of luck to each of you!

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QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

INTRODUCTIONS

Help us understand the type of leader you will be, by describing your two highest priorities for change in our municipality, in the short term. What about in the long term?

1. Being an older town, we are now dealing with much needed infrastructure restoration. This could be one of the biggest fiscal challenges in our municipality, what do you envision as the best way(s) to address them? Will this allow you to stay within the tax cap?
2. We have the Erie Catt Rail Trail running through our Town and Village. Could you please state your position on the Trail as well as your concept of what the future relationship between the Town and the Trail would look like?
3. The Opt-In or Opt-Out of Marijuana Dispensaries will be decided before you take office in January. Could you please share your views on how you will handle the implementation if we Opted-In, or what your plans for the future would be if we Opted-Out?
4. The new Bills' Stadium is being proposed to continue at an Orchard Park location. As the new Town Supervisor, how do you see yourself taking a lead role in making this new proposal a more positive venture for our community? Will you be involved in the plans for an adjacent hotel project?
5. Do you think our Town & Village is healthy and successful? There have been prospective businesses that have stated that they decided against locating in Orchard Park and instead going to one of our neighboring communities. Some reasons stated were town restrictions (permits, zoning etc.) as well as lack of financial incentives. Do you have any plans for addressing these concerns to help bring new businesses into our community?

6. What are some measures you would take to maintain or enhance our public safety for the entire community? Do you also have any long-term plans for addressing diversity as well as mental health in assessing safety concerns?
7. Looking at the historic character of our community, what is more important for our town right now: building new homes and commercial space or rehabbing/expanding/better utilizing our existing homes and storefronts? How would you address our ongoing parking limitations for businesses?
8. If someone came to the town with a proposal to build a major structure (hotel, shopping center, etc.), how would you evaluate whether or not that project was worth implementing? Summarize your position on maintaining a balance between environmental sustainability and economic development.
9. What role do you envision in our economic future for:
 - a. Arts and Culture?
 - b. Manufacturing?
 - c. Tourism?
 - d. Youth & Recreation?

CLOSING REMARKS

As the Town Supervisor, what do you hope will be your major accomplishment(s) after your four-year term?