

2020

IMAGINE DAYTON

## Candidate Questionnaire

*Return no later than Friday, October, 16, 2020, 12:00 pm.*

**NAME:** Robert Seward

**CANDIDATE FOR POSITION OF:** Dayton Town Council

### **ABOUT YOU:**

*After I was married, I moved to Harrisonburg we had our 4 boys. When they were the age to go to High School, we moved back to Dayton (where I grew up just outside town limits). Dayton has always been a safe, and friendly place that I grew up in and I wanted my kids to experience that same country atmosphere. I hold my family very dear to me, my parents and sisters still live in this very town I grew up in and have raised their families here as well.*

*I was a member of Hose Co 4 for almost 10 years, Bridgewater Co 15 for 2 years until health issues eliminated that for a while. The best thing was meeting the residents and helping them in some of their worst moments and being able to enjoy the best moments as well I just loved serving my community.*

*After kidney failure in 2017, and recent transplant in Feb 2020, I wanted to still give back now that my health has improved, but I unfortunately could not go back as a firefighter. Serving on the Town Council is a way I can serve my community and not be in risk of health issues. I really enjoy making a difference in my hometown and want to continue to make sure the experiences and safety I felt growing up here continue for our grandchildren to enjoy and be a part of.*

### **WHY ARE YOU SEEKING ELECTION?**

*I was recently appointed to the Planning Zoning Commission for the Town of Dayton and have enjoyed it very much. Upon this I have realized the town council is a place I can make a difference, and have Dayton be the place you want to raise your children.*

*I really want to make a difference for the safety of the families of Dayton and children we are responsible for that attend Wilbur Pence Middle School and Blue Ridge Christian School.*

*This is everyone's town and want to make sure everyone who wants to be heard, are heard, and fairly considered, even if this is different ideas from my own. We all matter, and we just need listen to each other to get to a solution that works for everyone.*

### **HOW WILL YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

*With the current situation with the virus, we have all been out walking more and getting exercise. On some streets, sidewalks are limited, and most streets do not have. With children and adults out, we need to make sure can walk and be safe on the local streets. Also, would like to see lighting increased for safety reasons of being able to see, and then also being seen. I would be open to any concerns from citizens, town employees, and the other council members if there are other things that they consider more pressing to correct.*

### **WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR DAYTON?**

*Keeping the Hometown vibe, but making sure Dayton is keeping up with new technologies, in water management, energy conservations and making its citizens the priority.*

### **BEST THING:**

*The walking trails are the most enjoyable thing that has been done in the recent years for me. This was perfect for what we are dealing with now, to be able to get out and take a nice walk, and away from traffic, with or without pets.*

### **WORST THING:**

*There is nothing I can really point as to anything as the worst thing, only mistakes that had been made. As Neil Gaiman said:*

*"If you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You are doing things you have never done before, and more importantly; you are doing something."*

### **MOST IMPORTANT THING:**

*To me, the most important thing is to figure out a way for everyone to come together, civilly, and everyone is heard and considered with no one condemning someone else's opinion because if differs from their one. This is a must to solve, and quickly, as we are all together here and need to work together.*

*Each citizen in Dayton has a responsibility, to get to know and talk to the Police officers and Council, to make sure you are heard and can voice your opinions/ideas in a safe and open forum. The time I have been on the Planning/ Zoning Commission, they will listen.*

### **CHANGE:**

*The town and its community is changing. We cannot do right now ( due to the pandemic), but have more town functions, such as highlighting the businesses down town closing the street on an evening and have people get to know what we really offer there. Have Council members and Police officers, there to get to meet the citizens.*

***Please sign and date your submission and return by October 16, 12:00 pm to:***

EMAIL: [clyon@silverlakemill.com](mailto:clyon@silverlakemill.com)

U.S. MAIL: Cheryl Lyon, 2328 Silver Lake Road, Dayton, VA 22821

SIGNATURE  Date 9/22/20