

Meet the candidate: Daniel Cowell

By Jen Bondeson News-Post Staff | Posted: Thursday, August 15, 2013 2:00 am

Daniel Cowell is a Republican candidate for alderman.

Should the city continue investing public dollars in business ventures? The city owns an airport (Frederick Municipal Airport), a theater (Weinberg Center for the Arts) and a golf course (Clustered Spires). Should the city be investing in a downtown hotel and conference center?

The city should not invest public dollars at this time in any further business ventures, which would also include the downtown hotel and conference center, until the city's fiscal house is in order. The airport is a necessity. The theater attracts more business downtown and supports the arts. The golf course is a public asset providing affordability to all. The city does not have the resources now to invest in any other business ventures.

Assess the efficiency of the Frederick Police Department. What improvements should be made?

Chief (Thomas) Ledwell is implementing new technology for quicker and efficient means to provide police protection. I have heard many positive remarks. The city needs a new police headquarters as it has outgrown the current facility. In addition, two police substations are needed. I would like to have more foot patrol in targeted areas.

Are the city's resources (funding, police, planning, recreation, etc.) allocated appropriately throughout its neighborhoods? Name any neighborhoods you feel receive too much or too little, and explain why.

There is never a perfect balance. The city is always a work in progress, thus there should be flexibility with resource allocation because neighborhoods need individual attention at different times. The needs of residential areas are always changing, and the city must respond appropriately to those needs.



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Daniel Cowell, candidate for Frederick Alderman

What's your view on the status of business and crime along Carroll Creek Linear Park? Is the city moving in the right direction when it comes to redeveloping this area?

Businesses make internal decisions where a location is favorable (return on assets). Those factors include customer traffic; cost of rent; and cost of goods sold. Business can succeed if favorable conditions are present. Crime has been a factor in deterring patrons from traversing the creek. If residents and/or patrons feel safe and inviting, then businesses will prosper. I agree with current plans to build Phase 2 toward Patrick Street.

What is the best plan for Hargett Farm?

The city needs to sell the property and repay the loan saving taxpayers significant interest and to bring in additional tax revenue. We should discuss keeping a portion of the property and create a small regional park for public use due to increased residential development in the area.

The Frederick News-Post invited candidates in this year's Frederick mayor and Board of Aldermen election to give their thoughts about some of the city's issues. We will publish their responses over the next few weeks leading up to the Sept. 10 primary election.