

Meet the candidate: Alan Imhoff

By Jen Bondeson News-Post Staff | Posted: Tuesday, August 20, 2013 2:00 am

Alan Imhoff 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?

No the city should not be investing in private business ventures such as the downtown hotel and conference center. Public-Private partnerships may be considered if a demonstrated need cannot be filled by a for-profit business. Finally, the three city owned venues mentioned above were considered in the past, in part, for economic development and set up as revenue generating entities.

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

The Frederick Police Department is doing a good job although understaffed from its authorized strength.

Our new chief is bringing new ideas and looking at older ones to see where improvements can be made. Perhaps one of the more significant older ones is where to place a new headquarters. If placed in the “center core” of downtown, could not a substation be placed west of US-15 perhaps to the north of Rosemont Avenue?

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.

The City has performed reasonably, over many decades, to provide its resources appropriately throughout its neighborhoods. The biggest on-going challenge is in maintaining those resources be it through manpower or in upkeep. The downtown “core” has recovered well from the nadir of the 1970’s garnering a significant amount of those resources; perhaps it is time to reallocate some of those resources to encourage similar restorative efforts to other neighborhoods like the “Golden



Alan Imhoff

Alan Imhoff, candidate for Frederick Alderman

Mile."

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?

For business along the creek, many more commercial establishments need to be planned for in order to attract greater "foot traffic" to patronize those businesses, with an emphasis on outdoor dining. The plan for McCutcheons expansion is a prime example. The types of crime along the creek will continue until there is more "foot traffic" and stronger enforcement of existing laws and policies to mitigate the current environment.

What is the best plan for Hargett Farm?

The best plan is to provide a regional park concept envisioned by the county almost 30 years ago. Working with FCPS, a possible site for a school could be incorporated, sharing a variety of sports fields. The vision for an aquatic center was also part of the potential uses when the city acquired the property. Other possible uses: family leased plots for growing vegetables or an educational natural preserve for the next generation of students.

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

Republican candidate Jill King will be featured Wednesday.