

## James Nestor announces candidacy for Ward 4 councillor seat

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for Councillor of Ward 4.

In the last election, the residents of Ward Four provided the present Councillor a mandate for change with their votes. That mandate has been ignored. The issues I brought to the forefront, a need to revitalize the downtown area, better communication with the residents, and improved parks were promised to be addressed. What we received was the continued increase in our property taxes while the Councillor voted for and received an increase in pay. A website that is incomplete and filled with outdated information. A



James A. Nestor

minor rehab in one park, while other parks across the City continue to have dramatic improvements made.

A jewel of our city, Waitts Mount, was forgotten about until I ran for Councillor in the last election. Since the election, there has been only one additional meeting and little, if any, communication of future plans for the site. Many residents in the area thanked me for running, and felt that the area was abandoned until there was a political opponent in the race.

I ask all the residents of Ward 4 to look around and ask yourself, have the quality of life issues, the things that are most important to you, been addressed? Are your streets getting cleaner or falling apart? Have traffic conditions improved? My neighborhood has fallen victim to a massive neighboring construction project. Neighbors complain of construction trucks running through our streets and a non-existent traffic plan once the construction project is completed.

The sidewalks in my neighborhood are crumbling, the streets filled with potholes. It takes months to have street lights replaced. At one time, during the last year, there were multiple streetlights out throughout my neighborhood.

Where is our Councillor on tax relief, senior rental housing assistance, better and more educational opportunities for our children? Why doesn't Ward 4 have a crime watch

program?

When first elected our present Councillor said downtown revitalization was priority #1, it was one of the main reasons he was running. In May of 2004 he stated "someone has to take a chance, in my opinion it can't get any worse." Unfortunately it has, considerably worse. Empty store fronts, trash lined streets, and vandalism are plentiful in the downtown area. The Current Councillor has been the Chairman of the Downtown revitalization/development committee for several years. What are the results of his committee?

The Ward 4 Councillor must work with the Mayor, City Councilors, and the Malden Redevelopment Authority to attract development, business, and the residents of Malden back to this area. I believe the revitalization of the downtown area is the key to the future of our city. By attracting a more diverse business mix and residential development, the City will be in a better position to capture the added tax revenue and disposable income potential that a crowded, bustling downtown area would provide. This added potential revenue will allow for the City to better fund City/Police/Fire services, educational opportunities, repairs to streets and sidewalks, and potentially alleviate a portion of the ever-increasing tax burden to

the residents of Ward 4.

The ongoing tragedy at The Heritage Complex in Malden Square should have been addressed many months ago. Malden's senior citizens are being forced to relocate as they can no longer afford the homes they have been in for years. I believe that City officials and the Malden Redevelopment Authority must work together to explore the possibility of finding another owner for the apartment complex. Our seniors deserve an affordable, safe and clean environment to live in.

These are only a few issues that need to be addressed, and there are many others. I announce my candidacy not with empty promises in the hope to be elected, but a strong desire to make a difference in my lifelong community. I will, however, promise that I will return your calls, be truthful, work hard, and represent the residents of Ward 4 in a dignified and professional manner. Everyone will have a place at the table and get the respect and courtesy they expect from their elected officials. I ask for you to join with me and make Ward 4 the neighborhood it once was. Please feel free to contact me directly at 781-324-2672 or Nestor4ward@aol.com.

Sincerely,  
James M. Nestor