

VADNAIS HEIGHTS MAYORAL CANDIDATE

BOB FLETCHER

Education: Bachelor of Science Degree, Hamline University

Occupation: Vadnais Heights City Council Member; Counter-Terrorism Instructor Civic/volunteer experience: Former Ramsey



County Sheriff; Vadnais Heights City Center Task Force Member ; Opioid Prevention Coalition Committee Member; Youth Athletics Coach Years of residency: 13 Phone: 651-248-2400

Email: Mayor@bobfletcher.net

Q: List your top two or three priorities for the city and describe how you would achieve them?

A: Public safety, fiscal responsibility, economic growth and youth development will be top priority issues. My law enforcement background will ensure that Vadnais Heights has the best police service possible. Youth recreation programs and quality trails will continue to be a top priorities as will keeping our tax rate one of the lowest in the metropolitan area. Completion of the City Center development is essential to stimulate our local economy and broaden our tax base. We must minimize government bureaucracy to ensure businesses can grow and prosper in Vadnais Heights. Finally, as mayor, I will improve the transparency of Vadnais Heights government activities and decisions by making sure all meetings are televised including City Council workshops where many decisions are currently made out of public view.

Q: What are the most significant challenges you believe the city faces and how would you address them?

A: Keeping our taxes low while maintaining and updating our streets and infrastructure will be challenging. We must look at long term alternative funding options for street repair and replacement that do not result in an unmanageable burden on businesses and residents. The exploration of franchise fees and other sources will be a part of this discussion.

Q: Would you support tax levy increases, and if so, how much and under what circumstances?

A: Property tax increases should be kept under 2 percent. Q: What do you believe makes a great city leader?

A: Good leaders are great listeners. They have their fingers on the pulse of the community and they respect and encourage citizen input. Understanding the needs of a community is the first essential skill in leading. Good leaders are tireless workers. They are committed to improving the lives of the people they represent and available to respond to their needs. Helping citizens in finding answers and cutting through government bureaucracy is the second critical skill.

Good leaders are good communicators. They work hard to keep people informed of government activities and pending deliberations. They are public advocates for the people they serve.

Good leaders care about those in need of help such as children and senior citizens. They represent those who have difficulty advocating for themselves.

Good leaders have integrity. They are honest in their statements and trustworthy in the actions.

Good leaders plan for the future. They look over the horizon and anticipate what is coming next.

Q: Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the job?

A: I have extensive experience managing a 45 million dollar budget and I am prepared to make tough decisions to address today's economic challenges. My administrative background coupled with my work as a Vadnais Heights council member and involvement in community activities, including youth coaching, have helped prepare me to serve you as mayor.