



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Richard C. David

CANDIDATE FOR BINGHAMTON MAYOR
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

(CITY OF BINGHAMTON, NY) Former Binghamton Deputy Mayor Richard David today announced his intention to run for Mayor of the City of Binghamton. The announcement was made at a fundraiser at Terra Cotta, which is located at 81 State Street in Binghamton.

Below are excerpts from the speech specifically pertaining to candidate David's vision for the campaign and City. Over the course of the campaign David will outline his plans and proposals in specific and in-depth detail.

“City government must be run like a business. You need to surround yourself with qualified and experienced individuals. You need to make tough decisions in order to survive and make no mistake we are facing the toughest economic and financial times we've seen in decades at the local, state and national levels.”

“My campaign for Mayor will not focus on the mistakes of Matt Ryan and his Administration. I intend to run a positive grassroots campaign that will focus on the issues that are important to local residents. My campaign will focus on how Rich David will improve this City and make Binghamton a better place to live, work and raise a family. I will go door to door in every district to make my case and explain why I am the most qualified person to lead our City over the next four years. I will highlight why my combination of education, public service and business experience will allow me to navigate through the complex economic and financial challenges that lie ahead.”

“With the New Year comes a crushing double digit increase in residential and commercial property taxes. This will not lead to a better Binghamton and is a primary reason that businesses and residents are leaving the City.”

“With the New Year comes a double-digit increase in water rates for City residents. This will not lead to a better Binghamton and is a deterrent for businesses and residents looking to locate to our City.”

“With the New Year comes a massive increase in sewer rates. This will not lead to a better Binghamton. In fact county residents are also seeing water and sewer rates increase by double digits in municipalities across Broome. The decisions that are made at City Hall not only affect Binghamton residents, but impact the entire region.”

“We must get back to the basics and focus on core functions of City government; functions such as police and fire protection, sanitation, snow removal, code enforcement, street reconstruction, water service, and a host of others. We need to re-evaluate, reorganize and streamline city services. Quite simply we need to reduce expenses and do more with less. Inaction is not an option and we can no longer avoid making tough

decisions because they might be unpopular. Simply talking about making tough decisions is not enough. It's time we roll up our sleeves, get to work and get the job done.”

“My campaign will focus on stabilizing municipal finances, improving public safety, expanding economic development opportunities, investing in our public infrastructure and enhancing our parks and neighborhoods. Over the course of the coming months I will outline my plans and proposals in greater detail, but one thing is absolutely clear. We need to rein in spending because local taxpayers can no longer afford current spending levels. It is also vitally important that we identify, protect, and increase current sources of revenue. At the same time we need to explore creative new initiatives that could become future sources of income, prominence, and opportunity for the City.”

“This election cannot be about personal or party politics. This campaign must be about the needs of the residents, the taxpayers and the needs of this community, not just one segment of the community but the entire community. Our collective needs must come first.”

“In 2005 we saw a very nasty and contentious mayoral campaign, which resulted in a three way race and ended with not one candidate receiving the majority of votes. We've all seen and continue to feel first hand the impact of that race, a race that was heavy on negative campaigning but light on discussion of issues and matters of importance. It is my pledge to you tonight that will not happen this time around.”

“My campaign begins tonight with one person. And while no one person can do it all, one person can take the lead and coordinate our public resources toward a common goal and direction. That includes working together with County and State leaders.”

“I am not the first person to get involved and make private investments and I know I will not be the last. But we need to get back to the point where positive development and investment do not randomly occur "in spite of City Hall". But instead, they are the result of "active support" from City Hall.”