

2020 Harrisonburg City Council Candidates



**LAURA
DENT**



**DEANNA
REED**



**RICHARD
BAUGH**



**LUCIANO
BENJAMIN**



**CHARLES
HENDRICKS**

Harrisonburg City Council Member Candidate Profiles

Three Open Seats, Five Candidates

The City Council is the elected governing body of the City of Harrisonburg and is made up of five members elected at-large.

The City Council meets at 7:00pm every second and fourth Tuesday of the month in Council Chambers (409 South Main Street). Meetings are open to the public.



DEANNA REED

Website:

<http://www.deannareedforcouncil.com>

Twitter: @deanna4council

Facebook: @deannareedforcouncil

Contact:

deannareedforcouncil@gmail.com

Deanna Reed is the current Mayor of Harrisonburg seeking re-election to Harrisonburg City Council. A Harrisonburg native, Mayor Reed currently serves as the program director for On the Road Collaborative, a non-profit youth empowerment organization that serves more than 300 middle school and high school youth annually. Beyond her leadership and achievements serving the youth, Mayor Reed is a member of Word Ministries Christian Outreach Church. She has served as a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. for over 32 years and serves on the advisory team for Iota Alpha Chapter of James Madison University.

Education: Currently working on Bachelors in Education at Liberty University

Attended Radford University

Diploma, Harrisonburg High School

Current occupation and employer: Program Director of On the Road Collaborative

Previous political experience: Mayor of Harrisonburg, Harrisonburg City Council Member

Hometown: Harrisonburg, VA



RICHARD BAUGH

Contact:

richard.baugh@harrisonburgva.gov

Facebook: @baughforcouncil

Richard Baugh is currently the longest serving member on the Harrisonburg City Council. Originally from Richmond, VA, Baugh has been a resident of Harrisonburg since 1985. Baugh is an attorney and current Member Harrisonburg Bar Association. He enjoys sports, reading, following politics, listening to music and cooking. His favorite thing about Harrisonburg is: "The incredible diversity for a city of our size and location."

Education: Juris Doctorate, UVA

Bachelor of Arts, Columbia University

Current occupation and employer: Attorney

Previous political experience: Harrisonburg City Council Member

Hometown: Richmond, VA, Resident of Harrisonburg since 1985



LAURA DENT

Website:

<https://lauraforcitycouncil.com/>

Facebook: @laura.a.dent.1

Contact:

laura@lauraforcitycouncil.com

Laura Dent is a technical writer and adjunct professor at James Madison University. Originally from Montgomery, Alabama, Dent received a Bachelor of Arts in Russian Language and Literature from Harvard University. Dent has resided in Harrisonburg for the past 14 years. She has used her technical writing skills to start a free-lance business and was a Featured Entrepreneur with the Shenandoah Valley Innovation Coalition.

Education: BA in Russian Language and Literature, Harvard University

Current occupation and employer: Technical writer and James Madison University adjunct professor

Previous political experience: Worked on a variety of state and federal campaigns for Democratic candidates

Hometown: Montgomery, AL, Harrisonburg for the past 14 years



CHARLES HENDRICKS

Website:

hendricksforharrisonburg.com

Twitter: @thegainesgroup

Facebook:

@HendricksforHarrisonburg

Contact:

hburgarchitect@gmail.com

Charles Hendricks is one of three owners of Gaines Group Architects. Originally from Bluefield, West Virginia, Hendricks grew up in Roanoke where he received a General Studies degree from Virginia Western Community College. He then went on to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from the University of Virginia and a Masters of Architecture degree at the University of Tennessee. Hendricks has been a resident of the Shenandoah Valley for the past 12 years and a Harrisonburg City Resident for the past 2 ½ years.

Education: General Studies Degree from Virginia Western Community College; BS in Architecture, UVA; Masters of Architecture, University of Tennessee

Current occupation and employer: One of three owners of Gaines Group Architects

Previous political experience: N/A

Hometown: Bluefield, West Virginia, Shenandoah Valley for the past 12 years, Harrisonburg the past 2 1/2



LUCIANO BENJAMIN

Website:

<https://www.luciano-benjamin.com/>

Twitter: @Lucho4Council

Facebook: @lucianoforcouncil

Contact:

lucianobenjamin2020@gmail.com

Luciano Benjamin is a senior at James Madison University and will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in Middle Eastern Communities and Migrations. Benjamin was one of the organizers of the Harrisonburg Climate Strikes to take action against the impending climate crisis. Originally from Los Angeles, California, Benjamin is an Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. Benjamin has called Harrisonburg home for the past four years.

Education: BA in Political Science with a minor in Middle Eastern Communities and Migrations, JMU 20' (Expected)

Current occupation and employer: Student

Previous political experience: N/A

Hometown: Harrisonburg, VA and Los Angeles, California