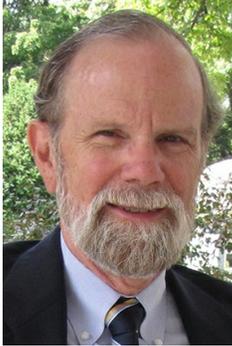


DENNIS BIDWELL

CITY COUNCIL ★ WARD 2

www.dennisbidwellcitycouncil.com

October 2, 2017



To neighbors and friends, Ward 2 and elsewhere,

I hope this finds you all engaged in a full and enriching fall, after an enjoyable summer.

The pace of things in City government and around town has certainly picked up. Please read on to learn more about these topics:

[The Downtown Camera Conversation](#)
[The New Neilson Library at Smith College](#)
[Campaign Open House October 24](#)
[David Narkewicz for Mayor](#)
[Pam Powers for City Clerk](#)

Please be in touch with your comments, questions and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Dennis Bidwell
dennis@dennisbidwellcitycouncil.com

The Downtown Camera Conversation

I weighed in with my thoughts on downtown cameras, and the conversation we are having about them and ***should be*** having about them, in a Guest Column in Friday's Gazette.

The proposed resolution and ordinance, both opposing installation of additional municipal cameras downtown, will be discussed at a **meeting of the City Council's City Services Committee Monday, Oct. 2 at 7:00 pm in City Council Chambers**. Your attendance at this meeting, and participation in the conversation as it goes forward, are important.

Here is what I said in the Gazette:

There's more I need to know before I can make a thoughtful decision as a City Councilor on the matter of additional municipal cameras in downtown Northampton, the idea floated by Police Chief Jody Kasper two weeks ago. Many people find themselves in a similar open-minded situation at this early stage of the conversation. As we go forward the community conversation launched by Chief Kasper would benefit greatly from civility towards one another, making extra

efforts to include the views of those who've not felt comfortable speaking up in public meetings, and counting on fair and accurate assertions from one another.

Wherever we land as a community on this complicated topic, I hope we can look back at our process and feel good about it. Acceptance and buy-in of whatever decision we arrive at will be directly related to the way we work our process along the way.

Find my [complete Gazette column here](#).

The Neilson Library at Smith College

Not every neighborhood is host to a building designed by famed Maya Lin (think Vietnam Memorial on the Washington Mall).

As you are probably aware, work is already underway preparing the site for the re-visioned Neilson Library (dating to 1909) at the heart of the Smith campus.

All are invited to a **groundbreaking event October 19 at 4:30**, where Maya Lin will talk about her vision for the new Neilson Library and President Kathleen McCartney will speak.

The extensive project is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2020. [More information about the new Neilson Library here](#).

Campaign Open House October 24

Municipal elections are approaching (Election Day is Nov. 7). As you may know, I am seeking reelection as your Ward 2 City Councilor.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term as Ward 2 City Councilor. I am pleased with what I've been able to contribute in my first two years and I hope to have even more of an impact in the future. It's a fascinating and surprisingly complicated job that I feel privileged to take on.

More information at my website: www.dennisbidwellcitycouncil.com

Although I am running unopposed, I intend to be visible and accessible between now and the November 7 election (and after that time too!) Lawn signs are going up around the Ward. **(If you would like a lawn sign, please contact me.)**

And I will be hosting an informal **Open House on October 24, from 5 to 7 pm, at the old Clarke School Campus**. Specifically, the open house will be in the Coolidge Building (on the west side of Round Hill Road), at the office of Family Legacy Partners. The new parking lot should be open by then, providing ample parking.

I'll look forward to talking with you about issues that have come up in the City and the neighborhood over the last two years, how these issues connect with statewide and national issues, and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

David Narkewicz for Mayor

I am a very enthusiastic supporter of Mayor David Narkewicz's bid for reelection. In a newsletter later this month I'll say more about this, but suffice it to say for now that I believe we are very fortunate to have as a mayor a man with a remarkable combination of managerial ability, financial acumen, long-range vision, political instincts, consistently progressive principles, and listening ability.

Pamela Powers for City Clerk

One of the few contested races in our municipal election is the City Clerk race. I am enthusiastically supporting Pam Powers, with whom I've worked when she served as Administrative Assistant to the City Council. In that role she combined her business management expertise, her thorough familiarity with City government (she was assistant City Clerk for three years previously), her commitment to open and transparent government, and her skills as a communicator.

Pam has a long record of volunteer involvement in Northampton, including: Girl Scouts troop leader, Youth Football registrar, Leeds Elementary School PTO President, Secretary of St. Patrick's Association of Northampton.

She is a graduate of Westfield State, and went on to earn a Masters in Business Administration from Western New England College.

She is superbly qualified for the office of Clerk.

If anyone would like to host a Pam Powers lawn sign, please let me know.

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