

Friends of Steve Arnold

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For immediate release

Fitchburg Mayor Steve Arnold to seek another term

December 13, 2016 (Fitchburg, WI) -- Mayor Steve Arnold announces his intention today to run for a second term.

Steve will continue to work toward a shared vision for a community where **local government has a responsibility to provide opportunity for all people**. Fitchburg's ideal location, rich agricultural and water assets, and diverse population is the foundation for a world-class quality of life for people of all backgrounds and income levels.

Local democracy should encourage participation and provide equitable municipal services, particularly to underserved communities around the city. Steve's vision for Fitchburg is focused on equity, sustainability, and high quality of life. With great freedom comes great responsibility. He wants all people in Fitchburg to enjoy the same freedoms.

Local democracy works best when we all act with **empathy**, instead of solely in our own self-interests. Empathy requires knowledge of the history and circumstances of others. So Steve has held listening sessions every month, in twenty different neighborhoods. These are opportunities for him to listen to the real needs and concerns of residents.

Attendee suggestions have led to remarkable improvements. New storm water inlets on Monticello Way now relieve street flooding. Leopold School classes helped plant street trees to bring their neighborhood up to city standards.

Local government is most responsive when city board and commissions members reflect the city's diversity. Steve has appointed representatives from all parts of the city, and from diverse racial, language, and economic backgrounds. He has worked with city police and human resources to provide our Police and Fire Commission a broader pool of applicants, leading to our most diverse class of new officers ever.

Our private life and prosperity depends on **the Public**, that is, government at all levels. Steve works to insure that services we need, and which we only provide by working together, are as effective and cost-effective as possible. These include transportation networks, public safety, and library, senior, and recreation services.

(more)

While much has been accomplished by Steve and the Common Council in his first term, there is still much to do. “I am gratified by the progress we have been able to make together over the last two years, but there are still unmet needs,” says Steve. “I look forward to working with members of the new Common Council to meet the future needs of all Fitchburg residents.”

Steve concludes, “Fitchburg’s elected leaders have a moral responsibility to protect and empower all people in the community. We have a long way to go to provide equity in services throughout the city. We owe it to residents to really listen to what they need, then provide it in an economical and equitable way. **I ask for your input, your best efforts, and your support in the coming election.**”

About Steve Arnold

Steve Arnold was elected Mayor of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, in 2015 after representing district 4 on the Common Council for ten years. While on the Council, he served on Fitchburg’s Transportation and Transit Commission for ten years and its Resource Conservation Commission for eight years. He was a professor of ecology and an information technology consultant before retiring (except for public service) in 2013. He chairs Fitchburg’s Plan Commission and Board of Public Works, and is also a Commissioner on Dane County’s Capital Area Regional Planning Commission.

Born and schooled in the northeastern United States, Steve has been married to Nancy Arnold since 1972. They moved to Dane County in 1983 and Fitchburg in 1994. They have two daughters and five grandchildren, all living in Wisconsin. When not working for the residents of Fitchburg, Steve and Nancy enjoy time with family, gardening, kayaking, and bicycling.

About the City of Fitchburg’s government

Fitchburg’s mayor and all eight alders are elected in the spring of odd-numbered years for two-year terms. Nomination petitions will circulate from December 1 through January 3, 2017, when the ballot will be finalized. The non-partisan general election will be Tuesday, April 4, with any required primary on February 21.

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Paid for by Friends of Steve Arnold, Sam Cooke, Treasurer