



## Cleveland Heights City Council Candidate Questionnaire

Dear Candidate:

This questionnaire is a prerequisite for consideration for endorsement by the Cleveland Heights Democrats at our endorsement meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 13, 2017 at the Cleveland Heights Community Center, One Monticello Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio. You are encouraged to attend this meeting, and if you choose to do so, you will be given an opportunity to speak to the Club prior to the voting on endorsements.

With respect to the endorsement meeting, only club members who are in good standing and on the official membership roster for thirty or more consecutive days prior to September 13, 2017 may vote on the endorsements. A majority of those members in good standing present and voting make an endorsement for office.

Please complete and return this questionnaire to Screening Committee Chair Katura Simmons at [katuras414@yahoo.com](mailto:katuras414@yahoo.com), 1736 Wood Road, Cleveland Heights, 44121, no later than September 4th at 5:00 PM. This is a Word Document, and we request that you insert your responses in the appropriate spaces in the questionnaire.

**Name:** T. Nadas

**Residence Address:** 2177 S. Overlook Rd.

**Home Tel:**

**Mobile Tel:** 773.456.4222

**Email:** [nadas4ch@gmail.com](mailto:nadas4ch@gmail.com)

By completing and returning this Candidate Questionnaire, I affirm the following:

1. I am a registered Democrat.
2. I agree to comply with the purpose of the Club as stated in Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution, that is:

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide a means by which residents of Cleveland Heights can organize to promote and develop the highest principles of the Democratic Party, to improve the administration of government, and to work for the good of all citizens. This organization shall endorse and support for public office all candidates whose election will, in the judgment of the membership, best advance the

Purpose. In pursuing its Purpose, this organization may also cooperate with the National, State, and County Democratic Committees, and pursue other programs of benefit to the community.

3. I agree not to openly oppose any Democratic nominee in a general partisan election.
4. I agree not to openly support any opponent of a Democratic nominee in a general partisan election.
5. I have not violated the above 1-4 during the past five (5) years.

If you cannot affirm as to numbers 2-4 please explain your reasoning here:

**Please answer all of the following questions.**

1. What do you hope to accomplish on behalf of the community as a member of the City Council?
  - a. My promise to you is to make myself available to listen to the needs of the residents of our community and do everything I can to address them.
  - b. I will collaborate with council to continue investing in our infrastructure, supporting our safety services, and ensure that all of the fundamental needs of each resident is met.
  - c. I will bring innovative ideas to community engagement, environmental needs, and economic development.
2. What qualities, skills, insights, or perspectives do you possess which would be of value as a member of the City Council?
  - a. I have 13 years of experience working in the healthcare industry primarily focused on analytics, quality and process improvement, and change management.
  - b. I am the son of Hungarian refugees who grew up in poverty and strived to give me a better life than they had to endure. From this upbringing I gained an appreciation for my ethnic culture and all cultures and the value of diversity. I am also driven strongly to never take more than I need, and to always give to the community around me. Community, neighbors and family, are the most important thing
  - c. I am a completionist but not a perfectionist. While we always strive to do the right thing the best way, I also recognize that doing something is better than maintaining the status quo, talking, and doing nothing. I have experience in a large organization with many silos finding common ground and breaking down large initiatives into manageable tasks to drive quality outcomes.
  - d. I recognize the need for constant communication and collaboration with everyone for whom and with whom I work (customers and colleagues). I have strong relationship building skills and will never underestimate the need to focus on the human element in any system or interaction. Keeping people engaged in an idea or project is not trivial task, one with which I have a great deal of positive experience.
  - e. I have a commitment to transparency in all parts of my life and will continue to embrace that commitment to transparency as a member of the City Council.

3. What education, employment, and/or life experiences have prepared you to serve as a member of the City Council?
  - a. In regards to education, I have been exposed to all walks of life. While working towards my Associates from Wilbur Wright College in Chicago I got my GED. Afterwards I finished my B.A. at Case Western Reserve University in English and Philosophy, exposing me to a hoard of intelligent and hardworking individuals. My Masters of Business Administration was done online. This experience forced me to be differently self-motivated to read and learn everything on my own. Additionally this strengthened my skillset of working on group projects with people whom I've never met in a completely online collaborative environment.
  - b. My entire adult professional career has had me working in the health care industry. I spent ~13 years at the Cleveland Clinic and am currently working at EnvisionRx as a manager of quality & productivity for their clinical operations. I've held roles from analyst to administrator to project manager. All of these roles required me to be able to have a high attention to detail and to be able to communicate my thoughts and goals in a clear concise manner. I have also mentored dozens of interns for whom I was a preceptor coming directly out of college trying to establish their careers. I have also managed diverse teams in both quality and operations. Being a manager helps solidify universal truth that nobody wakes up in the morning and goes to work intending to fail. It is generally the processes and systems which become a barrier to their success. My job is to remove those barriers for them so that they can take home their emotional paycheck along with their physical paycheck.
  
4. Describe your recent community, professional, charitable, and political involvement. Is there one situation where your participation made a difference?
  - a. The majority of my free time I use for volunteering and giving back to my community. I have served as a scout master in various capacities within BSA troop 414, the local Hungarian scout troop, for over 14 years. I work with children from the age of 5+, and work on developing leaders starting at the age of 14. I have been a counselor at multiple leadership training camps and have served as a mentor to dozens of teenagers who are still developing as contributing members of the community. I also am a volunteer dance instructor for the Cleveland Hungarian Folk Ensemble, teaching folk dance to individuals from 14+ years of age.
  - b. Two years ago, I was approached with a request for tutoring at Roxboro Elementary by Case Western Reserve University students. The request came from one of my neighbors who learned that I have been an alumni advisor for my undergraduate fraternity chapter since 2008. The goal is to connect the needs of the students and the school with groups who have a focus on providing service to the community. I am now pleased to say that this fall will be the fourth semester that there will be dozens individuals from Case walking up North Park Blvd. to assist Roxboro students with mathematics, science, and reading. I am thrilled to be in a position to facilitate such a relationship, and hope to continue to help grow this into an even more successful partnership in years to come!
  
5. How will you raise funds for your campaign?
  - a. I will ask all those who I know who support me to contribute to my campaign. I will also host events throughout September and October in various community locations

to make myself accessible to the community with hopes that people will also choose to donate.

6. Following is a list of issues facing the City of Cleveland Heights. Please choose three or more and briefly describe how you propose to address the issues you select. You are welcome to write about a different issue, if you like, in addition to writing about at least three of the issues listed below.
- a. Spurring economic and community development that grows our tax base and maintains Cleveland Heights as a vibrant community.
  - b. What is your view on using Tax-Increment Financing (TIFs) to spur economic and community development? How does this view effect the relationship with the Board of Education?
  - c. Reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life on our streets and in our neighborhoods.
  - d. Reducing foreclosed, vacant, and abandoned housing, and improving the housing options available to current and new residents.
    - i. I recommend we do a complete review of building codes/ordinances and the permitting process to streamline and remove barriers for those who would want to buy and revitalize these homes. Additionally to protect our housing stock from decreasing value we need to hold the banks accountable for upkeep and maintenance of properties they have foreclosed upon with passing legislation requiring foreclosure bonds.
  - e. Maintaining and improving infrastructure, including resolving our water crisis and future as a master meter community in the Cleveland Water Department distribution system.
    - i. The current crisis on the table is revolving around the EPA and our sewer system. Continuing to collaborate with council to ensure a comprehensive plan is developed is the first step. The next and more difficult step is to ensure that we appropriately prioritize not only to meet the needs of EPA regulations, but to continue to show our commitment to the environment by doing the right thing. Additionally I would like to see the city facilitate bringing rain barrels into more homes to help offset the rising sewer bill costs.
  - f. Achieving sufficient revenues to provide good city services. For example, adequate safety forces, efficient garbage and rubbish collection, snow removal, etc.
    - i. There is a false dichotomy in the assumption that it is “sufficient revenues” that are required to provide for good city services. My entire career I have focused on the balance between quality outcomes and productivity within an allotted budget. To achieve quality outcomes, an organization does not always need to just throw more money at a problem (achieve sufficient revenue). Working smarter, finding ways to leverage technology and process, is the way to provide the same or better quality services without needing to find additional funds. I will bring my unique perspective & skill set to council to find and implement best practices to continue to serve our residents and meet their most fundamental needs.