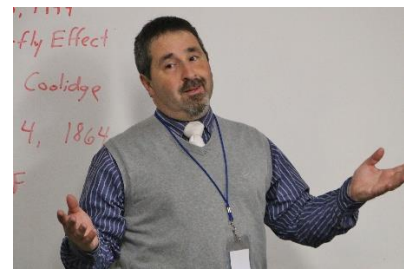




Stewart For Hartford



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Dethroning a “Row A” mayor candidate – best for Hartford

Stewart addresses the opportunities for NON-Democratic Party urban governance.

The first big northeast city whose majority of voters choose to vote for a mayor other than the Democrats’ endorsed choice will flourish. There are four oft-cited reasons for changing a city’s selected controlling Party:

- bringing “new blood”,
- ending unhelpful patronage,
- uncorking good submerged ideas,
- and doing city business better internally.

All apply to Hartford. A change from 52 years of Democratic Party rule offers a high upside for Hartford’s families, businesses, institutions, and culture.

I offer two more reasons why Hartford is especially ripe for an improvement if the next mayor is elected from outside the Democrat establishment:

- 1) More OUTSIDE help to Hartford.
- 2) More INSIDERS invigorating Hartford.

Outsiders have money. Conservative outsiders also have a passion to help urban areas that they don’t think will squander their donated money. Many are on the sidelines now because they’ve seen a poor track record with money sent to other sites whose Democrat mayors and councils misuse the money. If Hartford becomes the first beacon of good governance in the northeast, these groups will come our way. Just WATCH as the election of a non-Establishment mayor bring forth proposals from education foundations, health care coalitions, and philanthropies.

The Establishment supports fat-cat teacher unions that give them votes, while neglecting real problems of low job creation, high crime, and bad schools. The Establishment does NOT support good education, does NOT support small businesses, does NOT support police, and does NOT support women. Establishment Democrats, now on “Row A” in most big city ballots, are NOT what most of us Democrats signed on for. Individuals on Row A are almost all well-meaning. But well-meaning doesn’t translate into good policies. Of late, it has translated into downright diabolical dictates: urban Democrats closed churches, shuttered businesses, fired

employees, stifled schooling, kept imperiled people in nursing homes, and discouraged family members from even visiting their abuelos.

As for bringing in new ideas and energetic new people...on October 23, five challenger candidates, all of whom would serve in any one of their fellows' administration were on display in front a voting audience and media. All five offered multiple sound ideas for improving Hartford: all realistic, all budget-able, and NONE enacted by the current mayor or city council. Two candidates, Nick Lebron and I, also named many Hartford residents and outsiders whom we would enlist in a brand new administration. Since then, I have withdrawn from the mayor competition. Any one of the others, but Mr. Lebron especially, are poised to bring in that good "new blood".

Citizens, not long-standing government employees, armed with energy, passion, smarts, and good ideas, can improve Hartford better than any one mayor in a major party establishment. I've come to know Nick Lebron well. A Lebron administration will be good at evaluating talents and deploying them in win-win ways, with citizens doing what they love, turning Hartford's decline into uplift.