

City of residence:
Isanti

since the Democrat Party gained a slim majority in the state house and senate; while also holding on to the governor's office in 2022. They have acted as though they have a mandate and have used every tool at their disposal to jam through their Woke Progressive agenda. I think there is hope for working together in the future though. We are never going to agree on everything but no matter which side of the isle we find ourselves on I think we all want less government and more freedom. We may have to agree to disagree on some topics but there is a lot of room for working together when the goal becomes how do we make our government more efficient for the people of Minnesota.



City of residence:
Cambridge

Wow! This is right in line with my vision: “A Sensible Choice for Common Sense Government.” We need a common sense government that starts with the people’s needs, focuses on the problem and looks for practical solutions. We do not need to be attacking people. I am approachable and respectful, a listener who finds the good in others. I seek to unify, not divide. I am the sensible choice to alleviate gridlock. My views are not extreme on any issue. As your District 28A representative, I am the person who can move us toward working together by finding common ground to make our lives and future better.

City of residence:
Isanti

I love the small-town feel of Isanti and the feeling of safety I have living here. I want this for all of our future residents.



City of residence:
Isanti

Improving the safety of our town and enforcing the law to keep all residents safe. This could be anywhere from blowing a stop sign, driving too fast, under the influence or even domestics.

**For updated election results on November 5, go to
www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com**

ISANTI CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL ELECTION



JEFF HOLMGREN

City of residence:
isanti

Why are you running for election for Isanti city council?
I’m running because I’m dedicated to serving our

community. I have been on our local fire department for thirteen years and have been on the Isanti City Council for almost a year. I want to continue to serve our community and keep our small town values. I believe in a small but effective government that works for the people. I believe that your local government should never take more money than what is needed to operate local services. I would like to help build a strong and financially stable community for our future generations.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?

By utilizing the proper funds for each department along with bundling construction projects together in order to get multiple competitive bids. I would also recommend applying for grants and state funding when able, to help offset the price of projects that are needed for the city.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

I would like to continue to help grow our current businesses and bring in new businesses. Bringing in new businesses would help create more jobs in our area along with creating more revenue.

Isanti City Council special election candidate Jacob Miller did not return answers

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL (VOTE FOR UP TO TWO)



ASHLEE AASER

City of residence:
Cambridge

Why are you running for election for Cambridge city council?

I am running for Cambridge City Council because I genuinely care about our community and its well-being. I believe that everyone deserves to be treated equally and encourage hard work to gain success.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?

I plan on listening to all parties and having a non

bias view on topics. It is important to understand where everyone is coming from and what goals they want to achieve.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

I love the idea of a community swimming area and new housing development. Our city is already such a gem, adding this gathering area for music and summer fun will just increase the value of that.



TOM SCHIBILLA

City of residence:
Cambridge

Why are you running for election for Cambridge city council?

I am running for City Council because it’s time for positive change. I would like to be the Council member who does the research, asks the right questions, and makes sure that I am acting in a way that is

accountable to the citizens of Cambridge.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?

I think the City Council currently does not do enough to get the input of the citizens prior to making decisions. This is the first step, to be sure I know what exactly the majority of people are requesting. I have spoken with many citizens, and they all express deep concern regarding the high taxes in Cambridge that seem disproportional to the services/amenities provided. In terms of keeping the taxpayer burden minimal, I will do all I can to ensure the City is run as efficiently and cost effective as possible. This requires asking lots of questions, doing the research, and always being transparent while doing so. I’m in

your corner and I’ll fight for you.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

I feel as a City Council member, my main focus in everything would be fiscal responsibility. This means questioning current practices, speaking with department heads directly, doing the research on what has been done in the past and what other cities have tried, and looking at all ways to keep costs down. This includes planning for the future, so that the infrastructure remains strong. We don’t want to pass down any issues to the next Council members. This is my strongest asset, as I have forty years of experience in effectively managing buildings and grounds.



MARK ZIEBARTH

City of residence:
Cambridge

Why are you running for election for Cambridge city council?

I am running for a second term on the Cambridge City Council to continue the work we have started together as a city to develop and articulate our strategic plan. It is my desire to continue the work as a city to improve our downtown, maintain our infrastructure,

build partnerships between groups and agencies to meet the needs of our amazing community. I am running to work as a City Council to provide excellent services while holding the line on property taxes. Our parks and trails are a source of pride and I am running to further develop this community asset. We have made some great progress as a community and I hope to continue this.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?

We are blessed to have a great staff working with the city council. We as a city have developed a long-range financial plan for meeting infrastructure and community needs while keeping tax burdens minimal. This is not always easy, but the plans we have help us meet this balance. Our ability to work with community partners to improve/expand community

amenities with our community.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

There are many things I would like to focus on if elected to a second term. Since I have to pick only one it would be improving the quality of life of the residents of Cambridge. It is my goal to partner with community groups to maintain and improve our community amenities including parks, downtown, recreational, and housing options for our residents. We do this by using the strengths of our community to help us build our future. We have done a number of things together in each of these areas of quality of life and if re-elected I hope to build on them. It is our goal to make Cambridge “Minnesota’s Opportunity Community”. Together we are better!

Cambridge City Council candidate Molly Christian did not return answers

NORTH BRANCH MAYOR



KEVIN SCHIEBER

City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch mayor?

I am running for re-election as mayor because our city needs leaders that genuinely put “community first” in decision making actions! I believe in the practice of altruism, and always lead with the mindset that this community belongs to its people. Our community wants leaders on the city council who will

be straight with them, who understand that we are all one team. North Branch continues to see robust growth, and planning efforts and decisions can seem overwhelming, but avoiding tough decisions because the path is difficult...is not an option. I have the persistence to meet those challenges head on, as I have shown in my brief tenure as mayor.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible??

Several past budget decisions did not include key needs such as replacing enough aging police vehicles, nor hiring of a much needed, key personnel. These decisions bypassed an incremental approach to replacing vehicles and other aging equipment, which would have provided smaller, steady increases in spending. We are now faced with a situation of needing to play “catch up” with essential resources. I believe there

are ways to better “spread out the pain” of getting our operations budget back on track in a sustainable, affordable way, but tough decisions await us. Our staff is currently working on a more effective, incremental approach through our 10-year budget plan.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

After extensive conversations with staff leadership, it has become clear that we need to revamp the layout of our organizational structure. Making sure we have the right people in the right positions will help us become more efficient, more successful, as we continue to serve our community. Every goal we set for public safety, road maintenance, parks, our growing business footprint, and so forth, begins with the capabilities of our employee workforce. We are stretched too thin. We can do better.

See North Branch Mayor candidate Lorraine Moeller’s answers on page 14

NORTH BRANCH MAYOR



LORRAINE MOELLER

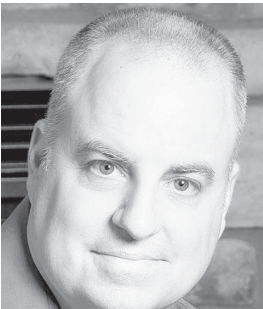
City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch mayor?
I have a vision for North Branch for the next 2 years and into the future. We are so fortunate to have a community of residents focused on wanting North Branch to be a vibrant, engaged and thriving city. In order to accomplish this, new leadership is essential. Residents need to be heard and acknowledged.

How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible??
My goal is to build out our industrial park - 200 plus acres of vacant space that the city residents have been paying a debt in excess of \$20,000,000 to have one tax paying business in! Accruing new business growth in the industrial park is necessary to bring down the tax burden to our residents. The liquor stores together are projected to bring in \$15,000 generated revenue? The electric utility that the Mayor lead the sale of last year was on track to bring in approximately \$700,000 to the general fund. The city’s “cash cow” was sold under the feet - of we the people. Why? We the people - lost a huge financial resource! I will lead the recruitment of business to North Branch to lessen the tax burden on North Branch residents. The past two years nothing has happened for new commercial

development. Instead, we are loosing viable businesses due to city regulations and too much red tape! I will pursue bringing business to North Branch and assist making it convenient for existing business to continue making North Branch “business ready and business friendly”. My proven leadership in engagement and utilizing resources will greatly assist in reaching this goal.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
My focus is we the people of North Branch. My goal as the City’s Mayor is to provide the leadership to unify our residents with their collaboration for community; our businesses, our educational and religious communities. Unify - we the people of North Branch!

NORTH BRANCH CITY COUNCIL (VOTE FOR UP TO TWO)



JEFF GOULET

City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch city council?
I’m running for City Council to help guide North Branch through a crucial period of growth. Our community deserves managed development that balances new opportunities with essential amenities and fair taxes. We need solid plans that include efficient

budgets and long-term strategies, all developed with active community input.
To achieve this, we must simplify how our city operates, treating residents and businesses as valued partners. This means increasing transparency and accessibility, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to engage in our planning and decision-making processes.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
A successful City Council should focus on collaborative, community-supported goals. We must direct our staff to implement these plans effectively and commit to an annual budget that reflects our community’s priorities. While tough decisions are inevitable, our goal is to create a future that benefits all, knowing we can’t please everyone.

Moreover, we need to ensure our city can sustain itself financially without placing a burden on future generations. By leveraging existing revenue sources—like our Liquor Stores—we can create a stronger financial foundation. Recent proposals for tax increases are unacceptable, especially when we have the potential to turn our challenges into opportunities.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
North Branch has lost economic prospects to neighboring communities, but together, we can reverse these trends. I’m dedicated to fostering a balanced, positive future for our city, collaborating with each of you to make our vision a reality. Let’s build a thriving North Branch together.



JIM IBINGER

City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch city council?
I have lived in North Branch since 1997 and have a passion for the city I have lived in for 27 plus years.

My focus will be balanced growth, fiscal responsibility, and acting with integrity and transparency with the community.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
Working with Council Members, City Staff and Community will be key. We cannot continue the “kick the can down the road” mentality. This does not work as we are seeing the council and staff working on the 2025 budget. Look at our current revenue sources like the Municipal Liquor stores. So far this has not been a viable revenue stream. Costs to run are too high. Review and plan to make this viable profit center to help pay for our needs to run the city. We had the

Electrical Utility revenue that should not have been sold. This was a large revenue stream for the city. We need to look forward to grow commercial business development in our Industrial Park. Let’s find simpler ways to welcome future business and developers into our city by looking at current zoning and ordinances.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
Listen, learn and act with our community leaders, residents and be a voice for them while seated on the council. We need to work together to leave a legacy for our future residents of North Branch.



KA BAO JENNRICH

City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch city council?
I am running for city council to continue to improve things that benefit residents: public services, safety, sustainable growth, and a justified budget. Often, the

government feels unreachable or out of touch, even at the local level. I will be a relatable, reachable, positive, and pragmatic voice for citizens. I will ensure the community’s needs are prioritized and create an environment where every resident is heard.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible??
Services and amenities are a necessary cost for every city. However, the government should treat tax dollars with the utmost care as that money belongs to the people. Therefore, I believe that any tax increase must be justified. I would first look at cutting costs where necessary to alleviate some of the tax burdens—this could mean being creative with cost sharing. I would also look to find local, state, federal,

and private grants whenever they are available.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
I would focus on proper short and long-term planning to get our city’s finances back on track. We need to plan better to give people an idea of where our city is going budget-wise. This means tackling the necessary things for our city (adequate police cars, for example) that would mostly impact it. Without proper planning, expenses can pile up and can be hard to swallow and justify all at once. The citizens deserve to know where the city is headed and a lot of that is done in its budget and planning.



PAUL SCHNEIDEWIND

City of residence:
North Branch

Why are you running for election for North Branch city council?
There has been too much corruption in our city council over the last couple of years. Our city has

spent over \$30,000 in legal fees to protect our council members during this time, and this is unacceptable. I believe a City Council member should contribute to the city, not cost it money.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
First of all, we need to overhaul our budget. We are spending money frivolously and it is costing us way too much. We have been represented by Council members that have openly stated that they are not “numbers people” and our budget shows it.
I also think that we need to incentivise companies to take up shop in the outlet mall. If we can fill the mall, the effects will translate to less burden on the

residents.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
Transparency. I want the people of North Branch to feel like they are all part of the decision-making process. They should be able to email a council member and know that they are being heard. I would love to implement a streamlined, easy approach for residents to do just that.
We are a small community, and that’s who we should represent. We do not need to govern ourselves as if we were a large metropolitan city, with metropolitan budgets.

North Branch City Council candidate Robert Canada did not return answers

ISANTI COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1



ALAN DUFF

City of residence:
Isanti

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
I am running for re-election to help continue our tremendous progress these past two years to keep the tax levy low while increasing our fund balance reserve. I also understand that the battle to maintain balance in the county’s budget is ongoing. I bring

knowledge, experience, dedication, and a sincere desire to serve the community I love. These attributes come from 23 years of military service, 10 years owning a small business and the privilege of serving as an elected official. The overwhelming encouragement from constituents is humbling and motivates me to continue providing leadership in our local government.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
Many challenges face our county. I will continue to listen closely to my constituents and ask appropriate questions to understand and prioritize their needs. There will be hard choices, but I will work diligently with staff, service community providers, and other entities to provide effective services to the community that have the least impact on taxpayers. I always

strive to look for cost-saving opportunities without compromising essential programs and services.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
During our recent comprehensive planning process, we learned that our community supports small-town values. I believe preserving our rural character will positively guide the direction of Isanti County for generations to come. Change is inevitable. However, not all development is beneficial, and fiscal responsibility is essential. Practical long-term development will help to protect us from suburban growth promote public safety, address public health needs, preserve natural resources, and provide affordable housing. With strong leaders and committed citizens, we will make our community a better place to live, work, and enjoy.



RICK SCHNEIDER

City of residence:
Isanti

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
I moved to Isanti County 13 years ago to start my business and raise my family. I want to give back to the community that welcomed me and my family. I want to guide the future of Isanti County by encour-

aging new businesses, make sure our roads are maintained in timely manner, help you feel safe, that your needs are heard, and you can truly enjoy your life.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
I will have an open-door policy to the community to engage in conversations about what they see as needs for the future of the county. I will weigh them in partnership with the other voices on the County Commission and do my best to find the best solutions and outcomes to improve the lives of Isanti County’s citizens. I will work with community partners, neighboring counties and all stakeholders to find efficiencies to keep costs in check. It is important for me to get the best deal and the best quality work done for you. In my mind it is most important to deliver a great value

for your money. We must eliminate waste, and I will be open and accountable to you, my neighbors. I will work with your tax contribution in mind always.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
I want to focus on encouraging and mentoring the creation of new local businesses. I will work with local economic development groups and community members to create or change ordinances. As someone who started a business, I know how daunting the whole thing can be. I want to be here to help you make that happen for you. We need to encourage entrepreneurship in Isanti County. I want us to focus on creating homegrown local businesses. I want to see Isanti County begin growing businesses here organically from the talented recourses we have in our citizens.

ISANTI COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3



GEORGE CARLSON

City of residence:
Braham

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
I am running for county commissioner because I have an interest in how our local government takes care of our dollars as well as keeping Isanti County a great place to live.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
We need to make sure we are getting the best pos-

sible value from our vendors for services, as well as doing our best to keep within our budget by getting the most we can for every single dollar spent.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
If I were only allowed to focus on one thing besides taxes it would be our roads. We need them to safely transport our children to and from school, emergency services as well as keeping commerce moving.



STEVE WESTERBERG

City of residence:
Stanchfield

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
Our work isn’t finished yet. I first ran for office to bring fiscal responsibility to our community by controlling spending and balancing our budget. Together, we achieved a major milestone with Isanti County’s 0% tax increase—a step in the right direction.
Government should serve the people. That means accountability and transparency. Every decision we

make impacts our hard-working families, and we must make decisions that benefit you.
Transparency is not just a talking point—it’s a principle I live by. People deserve to know how their government is functioning and how their tax dollars are spent. That’s why I remain committed to being open and accessible to you, ensuring that your voices are heard.
I look forward to continuing this important work on your behalf, with transparency and fiscal responsibility always at the forefront.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
In speaking with constituents across Isanti County, it’s clear people want fewer regulations and responsible spending. We’ve cut unnecessary spending, like the Orange Frog fiasco, and required departments to create five-year budget plans, ensuring accountability. As a member of the zoning commission, I’ve

worked to change regulations, giving business and property owners more freedom to make decisions that benefit their families and businesses. These efforts cost the county nothing and greatly benefit our community. Accountability and fiscal responsibility are my priorities.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
Zoning is a critical issue I’ve been addressing. Zoning affects how we live and what we can do with our property, yet our zoning ordinances haven’t been seriously reviewed in years. Many of these regulations don’t benefit property owners or make sense. By updating them, we’ll not only help local businesses but also give people more freedom to use and divide their land in ways that best fit their property and goals—a positive impact for our community.

ISANTI COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 4



MIKE WARRING

City of residence:
Athens Township

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
I am seeking another term to continue protecting the taxpayers and improve the small business climate in our County.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?

I believe that Isanti County government needs to put family budgets ahead of its own growth. As Commissioner, I have consistently put family budgets first. I have kept my promises to the citizens by voting against large property tax levy increases. I have championed proposals that streamline services and save money, as well as fighting against wasteful spending proposals.
My primary responsibility is being a watchdog over tax dollars and the taxpayers’ interests. I have consistently fought against wasteful spending with actions, not just words. I attend all of my assigned committee meetings without taking any per diem or mileage reimbursements.
I have brought forward ideas for saving taxpayers money, like streamlining the food service in the county jail.
I will continue to fight for you with actions, not words.

Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
Community service is important to me. I am active with the Friends of Historic St. John’s Board, and I have volunteered with the Minnesota Special Olympics. I am the proud sponsor of the Cambridge-Isanti High School bowling team.
I am a lifelong resident of Athens Township. I have carefully and conscientiously served the citizens as County Commissioner.
I attended Bethel College and Minnesota School of Business until I was called to serve in the US Army during the Vietnam era. I own two local businesses with 15 employees: Warring Decorating and Junction Bowl.
As your County Commissioner, I have a proven track record of listening to citizens. I will continue to work hard and transparently for you.

Isanti County Commissioner District 4 candidate Todd Christensen did not return answers

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI SCHOOL BOARD (VOTE FOR UP TO THREE)



BECKY ROBY

City of residence:
Cambridge

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
Hello Cambridge Bluejackets! I am running to represent you on the Cambridge-Isanti School Board. I have been involved in education my entire life. My two daughters are C-I graduates. For the past 25 years I have taught reading, English, and reading interven-

tions to middle school students in Princeton, MN. I retired from teaching this past spring and I am looking forward to this new chapter of educational involvement in my community. I believe that my experience as a teacher will greatly benefit my role on the C-I School Board.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
As co-owners in the Cambridge-Isanti public schools, I believe that parents, community members, business operators, teachers, and administrators all share a common goal. This goal is to see students gain the necessary skills to be part of an informed citizenry as well as to develop their critical thinking skills so each student can become the entrepreneurs and inventors of our future. I believe that I can best serve the C-I district by listening, asking questions

and facilitating positive partnerships so that together we can provide the best services/amenities that our budget can offer. As a school board, it's not solely our task to decide how to spend our taxpayer money, but as co-owners it's our task as a community to bring our voices and resources to the table to make great decisions together.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
Since this will be my first term in this position, my biggest job will be to listen. I want to hear from parents, community members, business operators, teachers, and administrators. I plan to be a hands-on school board member. I have much to learn, but being a learner has been my life's work and I am ready to learn how to best serve the C-I school district! I would appreciate your vote!



BRETTE HALVERSON

City of residence:
Isanti

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
I am running for school board because of my children. I want to help ensure that our children will have the best education and opportunities available. I want to be involved in approving their curriculum

and help them get more personalized education. I am here for student achievement. If they don't succeed, we didn't succeed.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
When I am on the school board, I will invest my time researching our budget. By doing that, we would be able to come up with practical and logical solutions to conserve our funds without conserving our education. I will make sure we have effective spending in all areas of our district. I want to ensure that all of our spending is tracked to eliminate any misuse of funds. Furthermore, I want to reflect and plan our budget for any future needs that may arise.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be

and why?
One topic that I feel strong about is mental health. I feel that mental health starts with our diet. In our district breakfast consists of multiple sugar options which includes Lucky Charms, Coco Puffs, and other loaded carbohydrates. I would like to see our children start the day with a breakfast that will satiate them throughout the day, not give them a sugar high. Another issue that contributes to mental health is screen time. As parents we have to regulate screen time at home, let's start regulating it at school too. I would like to see Chromebook's used in school only when necessary. My son can write one heck of a story on his Chromebook, but when he writes with a pen and paper there are many mistakes. The auto correct on Chromebooks is dumbing our children down. Let's give them confidence by figuring it out in their own.



ESTHER SCHULTZ

City of residence:
Harris

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
As a volunteer and substitute teacher, I have seen the struggles students, teachers, and staff have. I be-

lieve with my background and experience I can make a difference in ensuring staff and teachers receive the right support so that no student is left behind.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
When choosing the right policies to fulfill the needs of our students, staff, and teachers it's important that we do not create an undue hardship on the community and stay within the confines of the budget. This is why I believe it's important to think outside the box and explore all possible avenues in getting what is needed accomplished while also being good stewards of our funds and taxpayers dollars.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one

topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
The continued implementation of the Strategic Plan. I believe the strategic plan really sets up our school district for great success in ensuring every student receives a great education and solid foundation for their future. With the focus on bringing the community together, providing the right support for teachers and staff, putting the best curriculum in our students' hands while making sure the mental and physical needs of the students are met creates an environment where we can meet if not exceed the mission of the district.



HEIDI SPRANDEL

City of residence:
Isanti

Why are you running for election for Isanti County Commissioner?
My name is Heidi Sprandel, and I am running for the Cambridge-Isanti School Board with a deep-rooted commitment to our community and education system. Born and raised in Isanti County, I grew up in Cambridge, graduated from Cambridge-Isanti High

School, and furthered my education at Cambridge Community College and St. Cloud State. My strong connection to this area and my active involvement in local initiatives, such as Special Olympics, reflect my dedication to both our community and its future.
How do you plan on providing the services/amenities requested by your constituents while keeping the burden on taxpayers as minimal as possible?
As a parent and advocate for my special needs son, I understand firsthand the importance of ensuring that every student receives the support they need to succeed. My goal is to be an advocate for all students, parents, staff, and our community by working to improve our education programs and resources.
I believe in balancing fiscal responsibility with educational excellence. As a taxpayer myself, I am committed to having a zero to minimal impact on our taxpayers while ensuring that we provide our

students with the tools and opportunities necessary to become well-rounded individuals ready for life after high school.
Besides taxes, If you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?
I also believe that one of the most important responsibilities of a school board member is to ensure that policies are in place that benefit both students and staff. Effective governance requires critical thinking and a commitment to continuous improvement in our district.
I am excited about the opportunity to bring my experience and dedication to the Cambridge-Isanti School Board. Together, we can achieve a high standard of education while being responsible stewards of our community's resources.

Cambridge non-profit to host gala to honor late daughter

The Maddy Nelson Memorial Foundation is proud to announce the debut of the Walk By Faith Gala, a black-tie fundraiser to honor the vibrant legacy of Faith Nelson. Faith was a 21-year-old Cambridge native who passed away in 2023 as a result of a snowmobile crash in Bradford Township.
The event will benefit The Maddy Nelson Memorial Foundation, a non-profit that honors Maddy Nelson, Faith's older sister who passed away in 2016 from Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare childhood cancer. Funds raised at the Walk By Faith Gala will support Faith's Lodge, a retreat facility that helps bereaved parents and their families in a peaceful environment. The Walk By

Faith Gala will also support the Children's Cancer Research Fund's Camp Norden, which provides a safe camp for kids affected by cancer, both in-person and virtually.
"If you were lucky enough to know Faith, you knew she was shy and had a gentle soul," said Karen Nelson, mother of Faith and Maddy and co-founder of The Maddy Nelson Memorial Foundation. "You knew she did everything she could to honor her sister, Maddy. You knew of her amazing smile, infectious laugh, and her kind and generous heart. If you didn't have the pleasure of personally knowing Faith, I hope you do after attending the gala and are inspired to walk by faith to make an

impact on this world."
Tables went on sale Tuesday, Sept. 24, which would have been Faith's 23rd birthday. The Walk By Faith Gala is set for Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025 at the Armed Forces Reserve and Community Center in Cambridge. The evening will feature a social hour, dinner, dessert, auction, as well as other impactful moments to honor Faith throughout the evening.
The public can reserve their table by visiting WalkByFaithGala.com. In addition, sponsorships and donations can also be made at WalkByFaithGala.com.
For more information about MNMF, visit MaddyNelsonMemorialFoundation.org. - Maddy Nelson Memorial Foundation



Faith Nelson

CONTRIBUTED