

# Vienna Votes



## Vienna Votes Comprehensive Interview of Town Council Candidates (2020)

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## Survey Background

Vienna Votes distributed identical questionnaires to all candidates in early-March and time was allotted for responses to be submitted without knowledge of replies from their opponents. Candidates were asked to keep the length of their average response at 100 words. Lengthy replies to individual questions were truncated at word 150. For the final question, only, 350 words were permitted.

Candidates have been listed in the order they submitted their declaration and petition to the Office of Elections as this is the order they will appear on the ballot. Candidates could choose to answer some questions and not others; when no response was received, Vienna Votes attempted to compile that data from public sources. *When applicable, Vienna Votes research complied in the absence of a response from a candidate has been displayed in italics and notated by an asterisk (\*)*.

This year's questionnaire was developed through modifications to our prior year interview prompts to reflect current events. In addition, we reached out to numerous current politicians as well as past participants on our site for feedback on the process and topics. Vienna Votes would like to thank residents, Christopher Arntzen, Beau Dure, and Brian McCloud for their volunteer efforts in working one-on-one with candidates to collect their responses.

**Please Note: The Vienna Votes Project does not endorse candidates or issues.**

## Candidate Profiles



**Age:** 62

**In Vienna for:** 23 years

**Family:** Married, 2 adult children

**Current Occupation:**

Principal and Co-Founder, Capital Trade, Inc

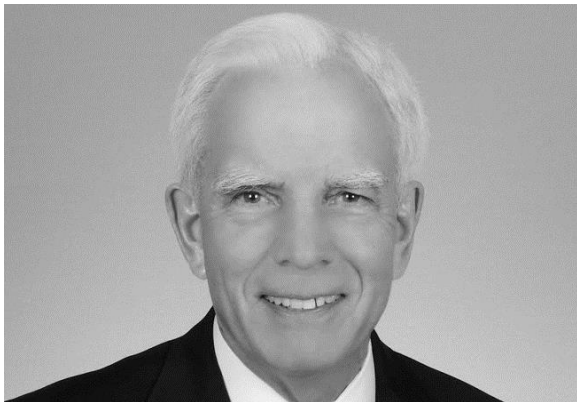
**Education:**

- BA, Williams College, History & Political Science
- MA, Oxford University, England (Exeter College), Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

**Charles "Chuck" Anderson**

[chuckforvienna@gmail.com](mailto:chuckforvienna@gmail.com)

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**Age:** 76\*

**In Vienna for:** 15 years

**Family:** Married, 2 adult children

**Current Occupation:**

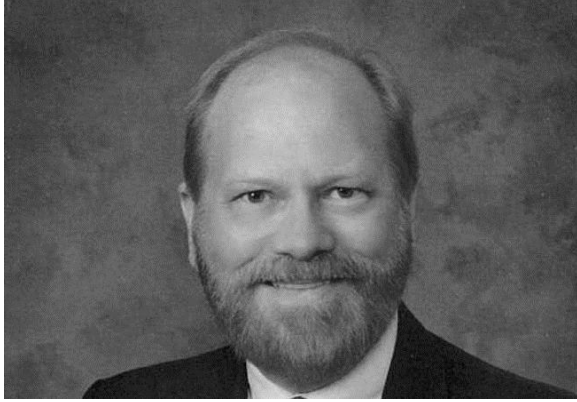
Retired; long-term sub (nearly 300 days), Fairfax High School (Geosystems, English, Virginia History, World History 2)

**Education:**

- BS, U.S. Air Force Academy, Engineering Management
  - MBA, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), Management
  - JD, University of Florida
  - MDiv, Virginia Theological Seminary
- 

**Ray S Brill, Jr.**

[raybrilljr@gmail.com](mailto:raybrilljr@gmail.com)



**Age:** 69

**In Vienna for:** 40 years

**Family:** Married, 1 adult child

**Current Occupation:**

Attorney, The Baldwin Firm, LLC

**Education:**

- BS, University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Political Science

- JD, The George Washington University Law School

**Roy J Baldwin**

[roy@RoyBaldwin.net](mailto:roy@RoyBaldwin.net)

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**Age:** 47

**In Vienna for:** 3.5 years

**Family:** Married, 3 minor children

**Current Occupation:**

Lawyer for a large technology company

**Education:**

- BA, Cornell University, Biology (biochemistry concentration)

- MEng, Cornell University, Computer Science

- GradCert, Stanford University, Bioinformatics

- GradCert, Stanford University, International Security

- MS, Stanford University, Biomedical Informatics

- JD, Loyola Chicago School of Law

**David N Patariu**

[takebackvienna@gmail.com](mailto:takebackvienna@gmail.com)

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**Age:** 44

**In Vienna for:** 16 years

**Family:** Married, 2 minor children

**Current Occupation:**

Partner at IT Consulting Firm (Datastrong)

**Education:**

- BBA, James Madison University, Marketing (MIS Minor)

**Chris P Wright**

[wrightforvienna@gmail.com](mailto:wrightforvienna@gmail.com)

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**Age:** 54

**In Vienna for:** 22 years

**Family:** Married, 2 minor children

**Current Occupation:**

Full-time Mom with 20 years corporate experience; Scout Leader; Cookie Manager; Fundraising Specialist; School, Church, and Community Volunteer

**Education:**

- BS, University of Maryland, Business Management: Logistics, Transportation, & Supply Chain Management

- MBA, American University, Marketing Information Technology and Entrepreneurship & Management (double major)

**Andrea K Dahl**

[andreaforvienna@gmail.com](mailto:andreaforvienna@gmail.com)

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**Age:** 53

**In Vienna for:** 10 years\*

**Family:** Married, 1 adult child\*

**Current Occupation:**

Chief of Staff, The United States Conference of Mayors

**Education:**

(American University)\*

**Ed A Somers**

[contact@edforvienna.com](mailto:contact@edforvienna.com)

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## Question 1: Residency

**If Vienna is not your hometown, where did you grow up? And, why did you choose to live here or, if you've always been here, what makes you stay?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

I was raised in the small town of Blissfield, Michigan, just north of Toledo, Ohio. Blissfield’s population was around 3,000, so Vienna seems pretty big, by comparison! Although a rural village, Blissfield and Vienna have a lot in common. Both have a long tradition of independence, self-governance, and a strong community identity.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

My father served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. We moved every three years as did all the other service members. I grew up in Lititz, PA as a young boy, a town that today has about 9400 residents. My wife and I can think of no better place to live than in Vienna.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Oxford, Mississippi, Princeton, New Jersey, and Lincoln, Nebraska.

Sharon and I could have chosen anywhere in Northern Virginia. We chose Vienna because it seemed like a nice little town, with great schools and a small-town feel, and a nice house that we could afford.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

My spouse and I chose Vienna because of the small-town feel and vibrant community. Among the candidates, I have the best sense of what other areas in Northern Virginia currently do and do not offer, because our family recently went through that decision-making process, and chose Vienna.

This is also why I was shocked to learn about the MAC zoning and its giant buildings, and now the planned zoning code rewrite for residential and commercial that threatens to discard what makes Vienna special.

My experience growing up in New York, where we did not have adequate green space, and lived among concrete canyons/tall 3-4 story “mixed-use” railroad apartment buildings, makes me appreciate Vienna’s green spaces. In Vienna we can still see the sun and sky throughout the day. I am running to make sure we keep those special aspects of Vienna, and don’t just become another concrete canyon municipality.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

I was born and raised in Lynchburg, VA. I attended James Madison University and moved from Arlington to Vienna in 2004. My wife and I have chosen to raise our family in Vienna because where else can you find that neighborhood / small town feel this close to a major metropolitan area? We love nothing more than going out to eat at one of Vienna’s locally-owned restaurants and almost always bump into neighbors and friends.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

As a child I grew up in Arlington Heights, Illinois; Bethesda, Maryland; Downingtown, Pennsylvania; and Rye, New Hampshire.

I moved to Vienna in 1998 when Mobil Oil Corporation relocated me from the Midwest to northern Virginia. I spent 18 months getting to know this area trying to replicate the small-town that I had left. I kept returning to Vienna because of its charm, small-town feel and sense of community.

Fast forward to 2020, I'm still here in the same small home that I purchased as a single professional only now my family has grown to include my supportive husband and two incredible children at Wolftrap ES.

In fact, my husband commutes 2+ hours to Baltimore daily because we love Vienna and all that it has to offer. We've become entrenched in the community with the outstanding schools, sports teams, churches, scouts, and all the wonderful things unique to our town.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

*Ed Somers is a native of Cleveland Heights, Ohio. He moved to the Washington, DC area for college. He moved to Vienna for walkability, arts, culture, and community.\**

**Question 2: Volunteer Experience**

**What would you like to share about your volunteer experience?**

**Charles "Chuck" Anderson (ANDERSON):**

I have been active in Boy Scouts (8 years), and served in a number of roles at my home church, including elder, deacon, and Sunday School teacher (20+ years). In addition, around once a month, I cook for a group that serves dinner to about 350 neighbors in need. I find this mass meal production a real challenge and joy. Finally, I have done door knocking and other volunteer work for a number of candidates for local and national political office.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

I have been volunteering my whole life. I volunteered to teach a high school student geometry at L.A. High School in Watts, CA while I was earning my MBA at UCLA. I led an effort with Boy Scouts to provide lunches to students during the summer who otherwise would not be fed. I started a coat drive at Wesley United Methodist Church to provide coats to the homeless and needy. This effort continues. My wife and I continue to provide home-cooked lunches several times a year for 75-80 homeless at the Lamb Center. I volunteered at Second Story and FACETS. I started and continue to lead the outreach to Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. We have given thousands of dollars in clothing and gift cards to express our appreciation for their service and sacrifice.



**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Member of Vienna Elementary School PTA, Scoutmaster of Cub Scout Troop at Wesley Methodist, Sunday School teacher, Vestry member, and Lay Reader at Church of the Holy Comforter; regular participant in Madison High School's Ethics Day, numerous volunteer positions with Vienna Business Association.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

My most recent volunteer experience was at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (OLGC) Fish Fry, where dedicated volunteers served thousands of carefully prepared, delicious, custom meals. I volunteered at a variety of stations: I scrubbed potatoes, rinsed fries, breaded shrimp, cut fish, carried many trays of fish and shrimp, and took food orders from hundreds of patrons.

Last year I also volunteered at the VBA's Oktoberfest, and although recovering from serious ankle surgery, processed hundreds of credit card transactions over several hours until the (good) beer ran out.

I am most proud of my legal volunteer work on civil rights litigation cases: because of my dedication and advocacy on behalf of indigent people in need of legal services, I earned the prestigious Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service from the Judges of the U.S. District Court for the N.D. Ill. and the Federal Bar Association.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

As a father of two boys, I've coached baseball (VLL) for the last six years and I've coached basketball (VYI & I9) for the last four years. One of Vienna's biggest draws for families is the excellent sports programs for children. As a coach, I've had the opportunity to help kids appreciate the value of hard work, discipline, integrity, learning from failure, and sportsmanship. I'm also truly grateful to have the opportunity to get to know so many friendly Vienna families.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

Having lived in northeast Vienna for 22 years, my friends and neighbors know me as an energetic mom who's first to volunteer for everything. I have a reputation of getting things done. I make it my mission in whatever I do to come up with creative ways to do it better, for less money, while having a lot of fun.

My 20 years of corporate experience has been easily transferable to the volunteer work that I have done locally. While others talk about doing things, I am out there in the community actually doing things as a full-time mom, caretaker, pet sitter, chauffeur, team parent, scout leader, cookie manager, event planner, fundraising specialist, school, church and community volunteer.

I am good listener and am often able to work magic connecting people with different needs and motivations to create a win-win for all.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

(no response)

### Question 3: Town Hall Experience

**Please tell us about your past experience in Town Hall. Have you served on any Boards or Commissions? Spoken in Public Hearings? If not, why do you feel these traditional qualifications are not needed?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

From 2008 to 2014, I served on the Planning Commission, including a stint as Chair from 2012 to 2013. During my tenure, I helped co-author a study on Church Street Parking; was the principal author of a policy on cell tower placement; participated in Comprehensive Plan rewrites and MAC ordinance review. I helped draft legislation on building height, lot shape factor, and outdoor eating. I was also a member of the Windover Heights Board of Review for nine years. As a long-time leader in the movement for responsible development, I have spoken at dozens of public hearings, including substantive presentations before the Town Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeal, Board of Architectural Review, Windover Heights Board of Review, and Transportation Safety Commission. I have written numerous letters and drafted multiple detailed arguments.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

I have attended all of the town council meetings for the last two years with the exception of one meeting. I, also, attended planning commission meetings for one year.

I have spoken at the Town Council meeting saying that I supported three-story height limitation and less dense development.

I, also, served as mediator between the builder and homeowners living near the 380 Maple Avenue MAC project with Town Council approval. I spoke several times to the Town Council on matters related to that effort.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Town-Business Liaison Committee for several years; Board of Architectural Review for 14 years, currently its Chair

Numerous, including opposing tax increases and widening of I-66

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

I serve on the Town’s planning commission, and ask tough questions for residents. When residents had questions about the planned residential and commercial zoning code rewrite, I asked staff about the undisclosed process. When residents had concerns about the planned use of Beulah Park as a temporary police station parking lot, I asked what the plan was to preserve

trees and restore the park. When staff claimed Wade Hampton could not be closed to cut-through traffic, I asked why not.

At public hearings I have spoken against several MAC projects, and for example raised at a public hearing how it was a conflict of interest for the same traffic engineering firm to work on a MAC project for a developer, while simultaneously informing the Town about Maple Avenue's overall capacity for traffic and additional MAC projects. And on Town Council I will continue to be a zealous advocate for residents.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

It's time for some fresh voices on Town Council. As a 20-year veteran in the IT industry and a partner at a local consulting firm I have worked through and successfully negotiated complex, multi-million dollar agreements. I have forged great working relationships with executives from many businesses as well as local school districts in order to see results. As a member of our Town Council, I will leverage my business experience as well as my ability to work with other government entities (Commonwealth of Virginia, Fairfax City, etc.) to create a "can do" culture in Vienna.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

My skills and experience gained during my 20 years working for Mobil Oil Corporation, ExxonMobil Corporation, and Trex Company Inc. are directly applicable to the position of Town Councilmember.

As a Company Operations Supervisor, I represented Mobil at city council, unemployment, and EEO complaint hearings. As a Business Development Manager, I worked one-on-one with small businesses in the form of service station franchisees, convenience store owners, car wash and service bay operators. As a National Trainer I created and conducted training classes for Mobil's 7500 station operators in the areas of financial management, safety, customer service, and employee motivation. At Trex, I negotiated sourcing contracts and implemented nationwide recycling programs.

More recently, I served on the Council of Ministry Board at Epiphany Methodist Church.

While my qualifications are non-traditional, I believe that they are assets that differentiate me from the other candidates.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

*Ed Somers is currently chair of the Transportation Safety Commission.\**

**Question 4: FCPS**

**Have you, or your children (if any), attended Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS)? If you are a parent, have you had any formal involvement in your child's school, such as through a PTA?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

My son attended Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

Both of our daughters graduated from Madison High School.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Our son Nathaniel attended Vienna Adventist Preschool, Vienna Elementary School, Louise Archer Elementary School, Longfellow Middle School, and Madison High School, before attending the College of William & Mary.

I was a member of the PTA at Vienna Elementary School and a supporter of Madison High School sports and theater.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

First, it is important to note all of the schools in Vienna have been adversely impacted by traffic and overdevelopment in our area, that in some schools we have a problem of “generational trailers”—supposedly temporary trailers that have been at these schools for more than 25 years.

We need to do better for our children. If our elected officials spent more time negotiating with Fairfax County to resolve the school trailer and overcrowding issues, and less time trying to “fix” Maple Avenue with mixed-use high-density condo/apt. developments, our children would be much better off.

I have three young children, two of whom are enrolled in the phenomenal preschool and kindergarten programs at OLGC. As a family we have been involved in many projects, formal funding, and educational initiatives at the schools our children have attended.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

My two boys, who attend VES, are a major factor in my candidacy for town council. As a parent in the Town of Vienna, we shouldn’t have to worry about our young children having to share a street with cut through traffic from Maple Ave. We should factor in and know the impact that development will have on our roads, schools, and surrounding neighborhoods. We should leverage technology better to ensure that the impact of and proposed development is more effectively communicated to Vienna residents.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

With two young children, I’m an active volunteer and member of the Wolftrap PTA. In fact, for three years I was in the unique position of being on the PTA at both Wolftrap ES and Vienna ES. I saw first-hand how two different schools operated and was able to share those positive things with each school. Because of this, I created a Veterans Day program at Wolftrap to educate students on the meaning of Veterans Day and to honor our local Veterans within our

community. I work closely with Wolftrap's "Safe Routes to School" team to promote Walking Wednesday, make our school safer, and to strengthen our Wolftrap school community.

As a Wolftrap mom and scout leader, I know how difficult it is to reserve space for community activities so my top priority is to add more places for community gatherings and expand our parks, green space and ball fields.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

(no response)

## Question 5: Organizations & Societies

**Do you belong to any organizations or societies in Town or the immediately adjacent area? Such as the Vienna Business Association (VBA), Vienna Arts Society (VAS), Northeast Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA), Historic Vienna, Vienna Moms, or something we missed? Please briefly tell us about your involvement in these groups.**

**Charles "Chuck" Anderson (ANDERSON):**

I served on the Executive Committee for the Malcolm-Windover Heights Civic Association for over 10 years, during which we dealt with a number of local issues, including several challenges to the Windover Heights Historic district ordinance. As a member of the Executive Committee, I also edited the newsletter and organized the annual dinner. I belong to NEVCA and Historic Vienna. I have also served as a volunteer coordinator for Neighborhood Watch. Finally, for a number of years, I have volunteered for the Annual Walk on the Hill.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

I belong to the Northeast Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA). I was the founding Scoutmaster of Troop 345 in Vienna; a 10-year vendor at Viva Vienna; volunteer at Lamb Center, Second Story, FACETS; and continue to lead an outreach to the Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed National Military Hospital.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Vienna Business Association, where I regularly attend meetings and support as many of their many worthwhile projects as I can, either through volunteering time or financial support.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

I am active in my local church, OLG, routinely volunteer for various organizations and societies, and am also a member of several online groups. For example, I am active in my NextDoor neighborhood group, several Facebook groups (e.g., Vienna VA Foodies, Vienna Beekeepers, Take Back Vienna!), am a NEVCA member, and as mentioned above volunteer on behalf of groups in Town/in the immediate area.

I am also very active in the effort to restore Beulah Road Park, that for half of the year is used as a stinky mulch yard. We can keep leaf pickup and do the mulching at a site outside of Vienna,

and restore this valuable park to the Vienna community. Some estimate the value of this park between 20-25 million dollars, and the residents in that area are tired of dealing with a stinky industrial use in a residential area. It is time to restore Beulah Road Park!

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

When I joined my current company eight years ago, I was employee number “12”. We have worked as an Executive team over the last eight years to build a vibrant, growing business with over 100 people located in Merrifield. Throughout my tenure, I’ve worked with commercial real estate, almost every aspect of HR, economic downturns, product development, both commercial and federal procurement processes, and continuing to preserve the work/life balance culture that makes a company a great place to work.

Over the last four years we have partnered with Shelter House. Shelter House, Inc. is a community-based, non-profit organization that provides crisis intervention, safe housing, and supportive services to homeless families and victims of domestic violence in our community.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

As the Reflections National Art Contest Co-chairperson, I worked closely with the Vienna Arts Society to judge the entries submitted by Wolftrap students.

As a Scout leader, I interfaced with members of Historic Vienna to set up tours of the Freeman Store and Little Library and to educate scouts on Vienna’s rich history.

As the Co-chairperson for Epiphany Church’s Holiday Bazaar fundraiser, I contacted nearly every business in Vienna to donate silent auction items that raised more than \$10,000 for CHO, Vienna’s local foodbank.

Currently I’m working with Fairfax County and the scouts to label storm drains within the community, clean up local park land, and to plant saplings and native plants.

As Girl Scout Cookie Manager, I coordinated troop cookie donations to our Hometown Heroes-- Vienna’s Fire and Police Departments, as well as complimentary boxes to some of the elderly in our community and in nearby assisted living homes.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

(no response)

**Question 6: MAC Ordinance & Zoning**

**What is your platform with regards to the MAC Ordinance? How do you feel about the recently initiated effort to undertake a re-write of all residential and commercial zoning?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

My position on the MAC ordinance has not changed since 2014, when I led the opposition to its passage. At that time, I stated that I could not support passage of the MAC, because the Town

had failed to determine its capacity to absorb increases in traffic and demands on infrastructure, nor had it adequately assessed the fiscal implications of converting retail to commercial. I also argued against extending high density zoning along the full 1.7 miles of Maple. While I welcome and support redevelopment on Maple, it must be properly scaled to be compatible with these other concerns, as well as our small-town ethos.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

I support a three-story height limit, less dense development, and more green space.

I support the effort to revise Vienna's zoning code, where needed, to preserve the small-town character of Vienna. I do not believe it is the Town's intent to rewrite "all residential and commercial zoning."

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

The MAC Ordinance should not be discarded altogether, but it does have to be re-thought. I want to bring to the table my experience with trying to make the current MAC work, gained during my time in the Board of Architectural Review. I support the concept of setting back the top floors of buildings to avoid a "canyon-like" effect. I support significant reductions in maximum density allowances.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

The MAC is a misguided attempt to circumvent the 35-foot height limitation on commercial buildings in Vienna, allowing upwards of 60+ foot 4-5 story condo/apt. buildings on Maple Avenue. It should have started with a traffic study that would have informed how much development the road could support. We now know Maple is at capacity, and any additional traffic from MAC projects will wind up on our residential streets in the form of cut-through traffic. The MAC should be scrapped.

An even bigger looming disaster is the effort to re-write all residential and commercial zoning by the Town, to date without public hearings or resident input. This is a covert effort to make the high-density giant MAC zoning by-right. At a minimum, the current staff and consultant-driven process to rewrite our zoning code needs to be stopped by the new council, or we risk losing what makes Vienna special.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

I support the modernization and growth of Vienna. Unfortunately, if you ask the average Vienna resident what the MAC is you will likely get a different answer every time. The lack of a clear and concise explanation as to what is being proposed, the actual impact it will have on our town, and an effective communication strategy to citizens is the problem. The most consistent answer I hear from neighbors as to why they love it, is "its small town feel." I couldn't agree more.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

I recognize that growth is inevitable, but think that we can do a better job managing it to

preserve our small-town feel. New growth needs to include comprehensive planning, looking at the full impact not just on our roads and class sizes, but also protecting the overall quality of life of our current residents.

My concern is how we will differentiate our town from the rest of the northern Virginia sprawl if the consulting firm hired to look at rezoning and make recommendations on future growth benchmarks best practices off of high density neighboring communities like Mosaic District, Tysons or Falls Church? What is right for other communities may not necessarily be good for the Town of Vienna.

I think that it would be beneficial for the Town to clarify certain aspects of commercial zoning in an effort to promote common sense commercial redevelopment without rewriting residential zoning.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**  
(no response)

### Question 7: What Works Well

**What is one thing you think the Town of Vienna local government does right? Aside from redevelopment and traffic, what do you think is the biggest issue around Town?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

The Town’s strong commitment to shared community experiences is one of the things that makes Vienna special. The Town does a stellar job of promoting and supporting community events. From the Walk on the Hill to the Holiday Walk on Church, the Town does an excellent job of promoting special events.

I believe that the biggest challenge facing Vienna is to maintain its small-town ethos, while adapting and using its unique assets to the increasing urbanization of the immediately surrounding area.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

The town employees are pleasant and accessible. The town does a great job of trash pick-up and leaf collection. The town events, such as ViVa Vienna, 4th of July celebration, Oktoberfest, Halloween parade, Holiday Stroll, Santa canvassing the neighborhoods in a fire truck, events on the Town Green, and various sports activities add so much to community spirit and quality of life in Vienna.

The biggest issue facing the Town of Vienna, aside from redevelopment and traffic, is providing adequate parking. Another issue is to reduce the number of business vacancies.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Our Police Department continues, year after year, to keep Vienna a remarkably safe place to



live, work, and raise a family. Without that, we really can't accomplish much at all. All our sworn officers and those who support them deserve our heartfelt gratitude and thanks.

I am alarmed by the recently announced intention of three Town Council candidates and one candidate for Mayor to run as a "slate", with the avowed intention of achieving a 4 to 3 majority on the new Town Council. I hope that your members will ask them why they want so much to take over our town and what they plan to do with it if they succeed!

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

The Town has been successful with customized redevelopment plans using exceptions called "site plan modifications," that take into account local conditions. The recently opened Bear Branch Tavern is a huge success story and an example of how we can achieve business growth on Maple Avenue while keeping our small-town feel. Exceptions were made to outdoor seating and parking regulations to promote local development at a location that made sense for the business and the community. We should be inviting businesses to invest in our commercial sector; I support using this success as a model for future development.

Biggest issue: how residents can safely vote on May 5 despite the pandemic? The election will happen on May 5 by law; it cannot be delayed. I have been working with election officials on this serious issue, and our team has prepared absentee/safe home voting literature. For more info visit [www.fvfc2020.org](http://www.fvfc2020.org) and <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee>

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

The one thing that I believe the Town of Vienna has excelled at the most is fostering a great sense of community. The Halloween Parade, Oktoberfest, Church Street Holiday Stroll (with Santa!), and sports programs all contribute to our close-knit community, and I would argue we need even more of it. I would like to encourage more programs that directly benefit our locally-owned restaurants and businesses.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

The Town of Vienna has done a great job working with the Parks and Recreation Department as well as with local businesses and organizations to hold wonderful community events like the Vienna Halloween Parade, the Church Street Holiday Stroll, Oktoberfest, the Public Works Day Open House, and the annual Easter Egg Roll on the Town Green.

Aside from redevelopment and traffic, I feel that maintaining that small-town feel and sense of community is the biggest issue around Town. My top priority is to expand our parks, ball fields, green space and places for community gatherings because these will help preserve that small-town feel and keep our sense of community intact. Recognizing that land is finite, I feel that the Town should place a greater focus on strategically acquiring parcels of land within the town as they become available to be set aside for future parks, ball fields, and green space.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

*In a public statement, after development and traffic, Ed Somers has listed safety of pedestrians and bicyclists as his highest priority.\**

**Question 8: Residential Lot Coverage**

**Currently, residential lot coverage in Vienna is restricted to 25% with an additional 5% allowance for decks. What is your position on expanding lot coverage? Would an increased allowance impact plans for your personal residence?**

**Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

Except in certain exceptional instances, I would vote to keep Vienna’s residential lot coverage at 25%. Based on my many past experiences with this very issue while on the Planning Commission, I do not support ad hoc changes to lot coverage requirements. Any revisions should be considered as part of a comprehensive zoning update. As part of that project, we might want to consider other rationale for loosening the rules, such as supporting affordable housing options. Changes to the lot coverage requirement would have no impact on me personally. On a typically sized Vienna lot, I was able to build a home that is certainly adequate in living area, and also have a wrap-around porch, a separate front porch, a breezeway, a detached garage, a deck, a patio, and two driveways. How? I built a smaller house.

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

The citizens spoke clearly at the listening session I attended at Town Hall on Monday, March 2. I find no compelling reason to expand residential lot coverage.

An increased allowance would not impact plans for our personal residence.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

After listening intently to homeowners on both sides at the recent community meeting, I have come down on the side of opposing it.

I don’t know, but I doubt it.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

Hold the line at 25%. We don’t want to be like other municipalities in Northern Virginia that allow anywhere from 37-53% lot coverage (e.g., Arlington). Unchecked economic forces can inevitably lead to bigger houses, less trees, and less green space. With the proposed increases, you are eliminating the tree canopy and green space that makes Vienna special. That is how you lose your small-town feel in residential neighborhoods. I don’t want to build bigger, and although increased allowance would benefit me personally, I don’t favor the proposal to increase lot coverage above 25%.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

The Town recently held a community meeting on outdoor living space and lot coverage. It was

well-timed. We should have more community meetings to vet ideas before hiring a consultant for \$240,000.

I attended the meeting and stayed after to talk to residents facing challenges with their properties. Every resident who spoke brought valuable insight and perspective. I understand and agree with those who would like to preserve trees in our neighborhoods and prefer not to maintain that small-town feel. I am also sympathetic to that homeowner who would like to create a safer driveway, or increase outdoor living space, etc. Ultimately, we need a solution that allows us to keep our trees and green space in our residential neighborhoods. That's a big part of Vienna's small-town feel.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

I live on a street in northeast Vienna where half the homes are located within the town limits which are presently restricted to 25% residential lot coverage. Other homes in my neighborhood are just outside the town limits where there are no residential lot coverage restrictions, only setback requirements.

When the Town Council adopted the 25% residential lot coverage restriction back in 1969, I believe that their plan was well thought out and passed in an effort to preserve Vienna's small-town appeal and to differentiate it from Fairfax County and other surrounding areas that have no lot coverage restrictions.

Therefore, I don't believe that the town should increase residential lot coverage. Furthermore, I feel that increasing lot coverage negatively impacts green space in our residential neighborhoods.

Whether or not residential lot coverage is increased has no impact on my personal residence.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

(no response)

**Question 9: Criticism in the Digital Age**

**Small-town living is often equated to life in a fishbowl. This has become even more prevalent today with the increasing use of social media. Are you ready to be under the magnifying glass? Do you intend to converse with citizens in public online forums?**

**Charles "Chuck" Anderson (ANDERSON):**

Because my professional career takes place largely in an adversarial arena, I am used to personal scrutiny. However, I don't find the "ping pong" of public online forum discussions to be informative or productive. Instead, it often inflames set opinions. As an alternative, I am writing a blog and posting it on my campaign website to inform the public of my positions on important issues. To keep it light, each blog will contain a music link. See my first posting "Knife the MAC, (But Learn from It)" with a link to Bobby Darin's "MAC the Knife."

**Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

My preference is to speak to people face-to-face.

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

To a degree I already have been, because of my membership on the Board of Architectural Review.

Yes, of course.

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

Speaking out against the MAC as an advocate for residents, I am already under the magnifying glass. Hundreds of millions of development dollars are on the line for people only interested in Vienna to make a quick buck, so unfortunately false personal attacks against me are to be expected.

I will continue my efforts to inform residents about issues adversely impacting the livability of our neighborhoods, like the MAC and school impact from unplanned development. We can't kick the can down the road and let the school system solve the unplanned development problem with "temporary" trailers that last an entire generation, especially when studies show 40 MAC condo units can yield 24 additional students.

Using social media, I was one of the first residents to point out the MAC's impact on our schools, and advocate for careful planning instead of the current process in which school impact is rarely discussed.

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

I can say with certainty that I have never been accused of being shy. Social media is a double-edged sword today. While it's a great way of communicating, it's also a forum for misinformation and overly heated rhetoric. The Council should leverage social media as a great way to share relevant town news and dispel false information, however extended one-on-one exchanges should probably occur through private messages, phone, or in person.

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

I am a strong person and can handle being under the magnifying glass. I see the value and efficiency in public online forums especially given the current situation with the Coronavirus.

I recognize that social media has its benefits and often read the heated comments and discussions on some of our local online forums. I feel that things online are more easily misconstrued than speaking to someone in person. Therefore, I am willing to converse with people in online forums and plan to use them when appropriate, but I prefer meeting face-to-face.

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

(no response)

## Question 10: Individual Qualifications

### What do you think differentiates you from your running mates?

#### **Charles “Chuck” Anderson (ANDERSON):**

In a few words, what differentiates me from other candidates are my experience, track record, and skills in building consensus. No other Town Council candidate has more Vienna government experience or has spent as much time learning about zoning and land use as I. I do not rely on staff alone to form my opinions. Because it will be tasked with comprehensive zoning law revisions, it is important that the next council includes experienced individuals who have the time and energy to get to know these complex issues.

With respect to track record, I am not a “Johnny come lately” to the development issue. I have served on the Executive Committee of one of Vienna’s most active civic associations (at the time). I have also been a leader in organizing grass-roots citizen opposition to many of the excessive development projects on Maple Avenue, including Marco Polo, 444 Maple, 380 Maple, and the original Sunrise assisted living project. My positions on the MAC are clear and have not changed since I first expressed my reservations in 2014.

Nor am I a single-issue candidate. In my professional career, I regularly take on complex economic issues, including auditing billion-dollar companies. My analytical background will serve me well in navigating budget and capital development issues.

Finally, I believe that our beloved town has been severely strained by the divisive politics of the past few years. While a leader in the responsible development movement, I have shown that I can build bridges and find compromises. As a Planning Commissioner, I frequently asked for, and received, additional concessions from developers. I helped broker a compromise solution to the architectural problems with Vienna Market. It is time to bridge our differences, and move forward together.

#### **Ray S Brill, Jr. (BRILL):**

My corporate, congressional, legal, and community leadership experiences are ideally suited to issues facing the Town of Vienna. I led strategic planning sessions for Fortune 100 corporations and spent a lifetime solving difficult issues with practical, common-sense solutions. I served on the Planning Commission for Gainesville, FL a city five times the size of Vienna. I used these experiences when I volunteered to mediate between the builder and homeowners for the 380 Maple Avenue MAC project. I am action-oriented and want to serve the residents and businesses in Vienna with integrity and transparency.

I promise to: listen to citizens through neighborhood listening sessions; preserve our small-town character; support realistic growth by reducing the height and density of new projects and increasing green space; work to improve traffic flow along Maple Avenue with a timetable for action; address Vienna’s needs for parking, pedestrian safety, and sidewalk construction;

reduce business vacancies; and support infrastructure improvements in a fiscally sound manner.

I was CEO of two corporations; chairman of the board of two non-profits – a Salvation Army Chapter and DC residence for homeless women; I, also, played key role in passing the Federal Small Business Innovation Development Act, an on-going program that has resulted in 70,000 patents, 700 public companies, \$40 billion investments. I am an Air Force veteran, a former U.S. Air Force pilot and civilian flight instructor.

I would be honored to serve you on Town Council. Please vote on May 5. For more information, visit [BrillForVienna.com](http://BrillForVienna.com).

**Roy J Baldwin (BALDWIN):**

Vienna is a wonderful small town, but you already know that. You also know that our town is under tremendous development pressures, especially along Maple Avenue, which threaten to turn our little town into a big town, complete with 6 story buildings. I don't think that's right for Vienna.

Instead, I want to be your vote on the Town Council for responsible development along Maple Avenue. You don't want buildings that are too tall, or too close to the street, or too dense, and neither do I. The next Council will redo the Maple Avenue Corridor Ordinance and thereby set the rules for developers for the foreseeable future. I want to be part of that process. I will bring more than 16 years of service on Town boards and committees to the table, including 14 years on the Board of Architectural Review - I am currently its Chairman. I will also bring my experience of living in this town for 40 years – as a scoutmaster, a PTA board member, a Sunday School teacher and more.

I have never been influenced by any special interest or developer, and I'm not about to start now. I will do my best to ensure that we keep our small-town atmosphere, while encouraging Maple Avenue's much-needed revival.

Back in 1980, when Sharon and I were looking for a home to share our lives, we could have settled anywhere in Northern Virginia. We chose Vienna because it was a nice little town, and because we fell in love with a little house nestled amid a grove of ash, birch, and maples on Moore Avenue. Forty years later, we feel the same. I want the same for you and I'm willing to fight for it.

I would like you to ask each candidate this question: "Do you seek this office to serve, or to rule?" In other words: "Are you interested in helping your friends and neighbors, or are you interested in gaining power for yourself?" My record of service to the people of this town speaks for itself – I am seeking to be a Town Councilmember (*+truncated*).

**David N Patariu (PATARIU):**

I am a practicing attorney, a Vienna dad with three young children, a parishioner at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, a planning commissioner for the Town of Vienna, and a zealous advocate

for residents. My pro-resident platform includes: addressing the adverse impact on traffic, schools, and neighborhoods from giant MAC building projects on Maple Avenue; honestly examining traffic on Maple Avenue, appreciating that Maple Avenue is at capacity, and preventing further harm to the livability of our neighborhoods from cut-through traffic; restoring Beulah Road Park and prioritizing the purchase of land for parks; making certain that the rewrite of our residential and commercial zoning code, foisted upon our Town without resident input, does not give away what makes Vienna special.

The expertise I would bring to Town Council encompasses years of academic, volunteer, and work experiences. I graduated from Cornell University with a B.A. and M.Eng. (computer science), earned a graduate degree in biomedical informatics from Stanford University Medical School, and earned a law degree from Loyola Chicago.

I was also a visiting graduate student at the New York Medical College School of Public Health, where I studied epidemiology and public health informatics, and at Stanford earned a graduate certificate in international security, training which gives me unique insights into the pandemic we are all experiencing.

I am admitted to and practice law in multiple states and the District of Columbia, having passed five bar exams (CA, NY, NJ, IL, TX). I have won several awards for my pro bono civil rights legal work and am experienced in handling million-dollar technology and property legal matters.

I also served on the board of a large condominium association, where I was instrumental in hiring new management, negotiating better service contracts, and eliminating graft.

As an advocate for residents against those preying on our Town to make a quick buck, I frequently speak and write about issues affecting Vienna. Visit [fvfc2020.org](http://fvfc2020.org) and [davidforvienna.org](http://davidforvienna.org) to learn more, and on or before May 5 vote for David Patariu to keep Vienna special!

**Chris P Wright (WRIGHT):**

I am a JMU alum and have called Vienna home since 2004. As a partner with a local IT firm, I have spent years building and cultivating relationships with a results-based approach that should be brought forth to our town. My most important job is raising our two boys (who attend VES) with my wife, Calli.

Vienna has captured that small-town feel so many people desire, within 10 miles of DC. I was motivated to run for Town Council to ensure we maintain Vienna's charm while still modernizing; not only listening but acting on our citizen's suggestions; and bringing a needed fresh perspective to our Council.

1. In 2020, we have residential streets with young children, senior citizens, and disabled citizens who share the road with vehicles due to the lack of sidewalks. A safer and more pedestrian friendly community is a top priority.

2. Leveraging apps and IT can lead to a more informed community with greater involvement and engagement.

3. I encourage giving our aging buildings a facelift and actively attracting new businesses to our town. To facilitate the diversity of our community, we need to provide the opportunity for families of all socioeconomic backgrounds to call Vienna home, while carefully evaluating the impact projects will have on our roads, schools, and surrounding homes.

4. More parks and green space makes Vienna a desirable place to live and it is vital to our environment. Two new trees should be planted for every one that is cut down.

Vienna is “lightning in a bottle.” I feel fortunate to be part of this community and to raise my family here. I’m running for our town council to continue to move Vienna forward while preserving everything that makes Vienna special. Vote Chris Wright on May 5th!

**Andrea K Dahl (DAHL):**

The most obvious thing that differentiates me from my fellow Town Council Candidates is the fact that I’m the only female and full-time mom with elementary school age children running for Town Councilmember. I feel this is an advantage because I’m out in the community on a daily basis usually in one of my many volunteer roles watching, listening, and interacting with the residents of our Town.

I see first-hand that our schools are overcrowded and require trailers.

I see that there is a 2+ year waitlist to get our children in SACC after-school care and a 7+ year waitlist to be able to join a local community pool.

I have experienced first-hand elementary school children having to travel to fields in neighboring towns or attend late night practices because there is a shortage of fields in our Town.

I have experienced first-hand the challenge of trying to find space large enough to hold a monthly Girl Scout meeting for a troop of twenty girls.

I see first-hand the strain that many of our local churches are under.

While on the Council of Ministry Board at Epiphany Church, I experienced the heartbreak of having to close the church after 58 years in our Town.

I watched the domino effect of that church closure on the two thriving preschools that operate out of Epiphany and saw the frustration from the different Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops when it appeared they would all need to find alternate places to meet.

I watch our wildlife desperately trying to survive as their local habitats are destroyed.

Because I recognize that the lack of open space, green space, and places for local groups to gather is a current and growing problem, addressing this is my priority. Another differentiation



is that I am not a politician nor existing member of any of the Town Boards. This, I also see as an advantage because I'm able to look at issues with an open mind and new perspective. I am indeed a fresh voice, fresh choice.

For additional information visit [www.andreaforvienna.org](http://www.andreaforvienna.org) or [www.fvfc2020.org](http://www.fvfc2020.org).

**Ed A Somers (SOMERS):**

*In addition to my willingness to work hard for you and my belief in a solid future for our Town, I believe I am uniquely qualified to serve as a local elected official.*

*I have spent my entire professional career working for local governments and local elected officials as a non-partisan federal representative and national membership association executive.*

*During my time working for local governments, I have been fortunate to work with and learn from some of the nation's greatest local elected officials – from cities of all sizes and regions of our nation. I have learned many best practices that can be replicated here in Vienna, and I have a vast network of current and former elected local leaders and professional city staff from whom I can seek advice and counsel.*

*I have a deep appreciation for the work that local elected officials and their professional staff do on a daily basis to improve their communities and stay connected to needs of their residents.\**

(END)