

EDWARD JOSEPH CHRZANOWSKI  
46 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE  
REHOBOTH BEACH, DELAWARE 19971  
[EDCHRZ@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EDCHRZ@GMAIL.COM) • (908) 601- 7438

June 18, 2020

To my constituents in Rehoboth Beach:

I want to thank everyone who encouraged me to run for Mayor. I am humbled and honored by your support. I am so very proud of our Rehoboth Beach Community, and I want to do whatever I can to ensure that we continue to move forward, while protecting the unique charm of our City. I am hereby withdrawing my petition for Mayor, and will continue as a Commissioner at this time.

We can only continue to thrive as a sought-after place to live, do business and visit if we elect a Mayor and Board of Commissioners who continuously bring fresh voices and ideas to the table. Our City leadership must embrace a transparent, participatory governance process that listens to full-time residents, part-time residents, local businesses, and our guests.

I have talked with a lot of residents, property owners, business owners, visitors, and local community organizations. I was encouraged by their enthusiasm for my candidacy and their offers of help and support. I am gratified and humbled by their confidence in me and their appreciation for what I have done to help improve and support our community. Above all, I do not want to see us become victims again to the blunders of the previous administration, their deferral of maintenance and total disregard of our critical infrastructure, over budget projects and zero accountability, favoritism and unequal enforcement, and a pervasive insensitivity to those of us who are residents, property owners, proprietors of businesses, and other affected stakeholders.

There is no doubt - new leadership on our Board of Commissioners over the past 2+ years has stabilized our fiscal position; developed and implemented a capital investment plan that is fixing our long-neglected, aging infrastructure; revitalized RB Main Street to better support our businesses; and is successfully navigating our town through these unprecedented times.

This progress will only continue if we continue to embrace a culture of strong leadership, inclusion, accountability, and innovation as we focus on balanced progress and recovery.

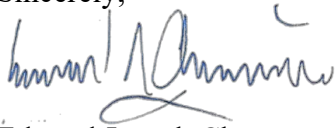
Our current Mayor, Paul Kuhns, has been the steward of positive change in our City. During his administration, he has improved oversight of operations and projects and implemented processes that have resulted in: the completion of the ocean outfall project at a reduced cost; renegotiated lower rates on the debt accumulated over the past decade; worked with the Commissioners to develop and begin the implementation of a five-year capital improvement plan to fix roads, repair and better maintain wastewater plant structures and stormwater pipes; supported a way finding sign system that is soon to be implemented; and, many other initiatives that are now being implemented on or ahead of schedule, and on or below budget. Despite resistance from long-serving Commissioners now seeking to regain positions in our City government, meetings of City commissions and committees are now live-streamed, and most recently, in response to the COVID-19 constraints, has implemented virtual meetings with significant participation from the public.

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Recently, I had lengthy discussions with Paul about his vision and his commitment to do what is necessary to continue to move forward for the future of our City. I believe he is sincere in his commitment to make operational, structural and personnel changes, if necessary, to achieve these objectives. Specifically, he assured me that he will continue to work closely with the Commissioners and our stakeholders to be more transparent and inclusive in decision-making; will focus on accountability and enhancing the customer experience and City services for our citizens and businesses; and will take proactive actions to improve communications and stakeholder outreach, so that all voices in our community are heard.

Given his commitment to me, I am comfortable withdrawing my nominating petition for Mayor, and I fully support Paul Kuhns for reelection on August 8, 2020. Most importantly - we must continue to move forward and not revert to the ways of the past. I encourage you to support Mayor Paul Kuhns, vote by absentee ballot or vote in person...but please vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward J. Chrzanowski", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward Joseph Chrzanowski  
Commissioner and former  
Candidate for Mayor,  
City of Rehoboth Beach, DE