

Letter to the Editor

Editor
The Story That Must Be Told

For the past six weeks I have watched the Mayoral city election with interest. This Mayoral election has been competitive and each side has taken a different approach. One candidate, RODGER JOHNSON, has run a campaign that has taken the HIGH ROAD pointing out his strengths, his accomplishments, and his vision for the future. The other candidate, Teresa Adams-Wilks, has chosen to take the LOW ROAD and throw as many roadblocks as possible. One of her backers early on wrote a letter to the editor that fell short of any substance and wound up insulting a present and highly respected council member on a personal home-front basis. This backer had no right to make these remarks and a huge majority of voters took offense. This council member considered the source and moved on.

Several weeks ago it was pointed out by a second party source that the wording was incorrect on the HIGH ROAD candidate's signs and a billboard. The HIGH ROAD candidate took immediate action and within twelve hours the same day, all signs but one were corrected. The last sign correction was delayed until the next day so a picture could be taken for this paper. The billboard involved had more of a time element, but a sense of urgency and extra expenditures were placed on this and it was corrected within one week on a normal two week window. Once again, one of the LOW ROAD candidate's backers chose to attack the HIGH ROAD candidate by filing a sworn complaint with TEC, stating that the candidate was not in compliance with the guidelines established by the TEC for political advertising. They went on to say that this candidate is "misrepresenting the position he now holds with the city of Bullard?". This was an honest mistake on the part of this candidate and if the writer of this complaint will check they will find that if the candidate takes immediate action in good faith to correct the situation, which was done, he is in compliance with TEC.

Within the last week the LOW ROAD candidate appeared in an ad picturing six previous Mayors of Bullard who paid for and backed this candidate. I am not familiar with the accomplishments of four of the earlier Mayors, but I am familiar with two of the Mayors who appeared. When Mr. Connie Vaughan was elected Mayor, he won by a large majority and did an outstanding job of making the city a more pleasant place to live. He also made the council meetings more pleasant to attend since the person in that seat prior to him never appeared to be interested in hearing or taking action upon the concerns of the residents. This is the same Mayor who wrote a letter to the editor mentioned earlier in this letter. There was another former Mayor in this picture who had pledged his vote to the HIGH ROAD candidate and this candidate did not learn of the change of his allegiance until the ad appeared. His excuse was that some of the other Mayors approached him, along with the LOW ROAD candidate, and he felt he was obligated to change. This same LOW ROAD candidate has stated in her ads "ethical leadership, high moral standards, and respect". Does boycotting the forum sponsored by the Bullard High school journalism class, who worked so hard to make it a success, show respect? You be the judge!

Also within the last week the LOW ROAD candidate has made mailings to the citizens of Bullard. In paragraphs two, three and four, it appears she was more interested in making derogatory statements about her opponent than in pointing out her own qualities which was in the latter part of this mailing. In addition, in last week's edition of this paper, this same candidate took credit for being a part of some accomplishments while serving on the council, which she took very little part in. One actually took place before her election.

These are only some of the facts, not fiction, that have taken place in the Mayoral contest. Through all of these actions and untrue rumors that have been spread, the HIGH ROAD candidate has kept stating his platform while moving ahead on a positive basis in the same manner that he will lead the city of Bullard if elected Mayor. On several occasions, the advisors to this candidate have urged him to respond in some way, but on each occasion he adamantly refused to do so until now. He now felt compelled, in order to protect his integrity, he must respond to the claims and untrue statements that the LOW ROAD candidate has made in her recent ads and letters to the voters. Read this candidate's letters sent to you, read this candidate's ads whose format has been copied recently in local papers and letters to voters by the LOW ROAD candidate and then make your choice. It is your city. It is your future. If you wish it led by someone who cares for your needs, then vote for RODGER JOHNSON for Mayor. In his terms on the city council and in his present position as Mayor Pro-Tem, he initiated and with the guidance of the city council and the City Manager, put together a budget that took Bullard from not paying their bills on time to now having close to \$700,000 to work with to improve your city. The first project on hand is the repairing of streets in the proper manner. If not elected, he will be out of city government as he is relinquishing his former council seat to run for Mayor. If not elected Mayor, it would leave this city with a tremendous void. If his opponent wins, then her seat on the council will have to be filled as she has one year remaining on her present term. At present, there are two council seats up for election. If she wins, there will be three seats to be filled, which means there will be two new council members and possibly three should the incumbent who is running for one of these seats not win. This means the city could have a new Mayor and possibly three new council seats. This is not the time to fracture city government. Your present council is headed in the right direction, and side-tracking their efforts with a complete change over now, is not in your best interest. Experience counts and RODGER JOHNSON has that experience to serve this city as Mayor. Hopefully he will be elected.

RODGER JOHNSON is "the RIGHT PERSON at the RIGHT TIME for a GROWING CITY".

Jim Wade
Bullard Resident

Please note: Rodger Johnson did not ask that this letter be written, and has no knowledge of this letter prior to it being published in this newspaper.

F.Y.I.

From page 1

Tuesday of each month.

Bullard ISD Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of the month.

Bullard Area Kiwanis Club meets Noon Tuesdays at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center.

Bullard Area Rotary Club meets 6:30 a.m. at Keipersol.

General Joseph L. Hogg Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, meet the second Saturday every month in the Bullard and Jacksonville area. For more information call J.D@Campbell at 903-894-6727.

Call or stop by the paper with story ideas.

Editor,

The upcoming election is very important for the future of our city. I hope all voters have gathered or are gathering information on all of the candidates. I am writing because I am concerned about some of the information I have overheard specifically regarding the forum. The Forum on April 26 was a great opportunity for our citizens to meet the candidates and its unfortunate not all of the candidates for City Council could attend. I cannot speak for all of the candidates, though I feel if I asked them, they would have a valid reason for not attending. I do know however why Jay Abercrombie was not in attendance and for those who aren't aware, I would like to share what I know about Jay.

He is committed to his family and community in a way which I greatly admire. He was not at the forum because he was with his daughter in Canton. Jay has 2 daughters who are very active, and one of the girls had a basketball game that evening. He was asked a couple of months ago by Wade Frederick (Pam's husband) to help him coach a group of 7th grade girls in a couple of tournaments. It just so happens that the forum was scheduled on the first night of that tournament. I'm aware of this because my twin daughters are on this team and he had committed to Wade his daughter and 9 other middle school girls to be with them at this tournament. Jay is very dedicated to his family and his daughters keep him running for sure, but he rarely misses one of their events. I was disappointed to hear the negativity as he has a deep commitment to the community and the school.

Jay has been an active member of the Bullard Area Kiwanis Club for 5 1/2 years, where he helps out with the Key Club at the High School. For the last 3 years he has worked with the HS Economics teacher and taught our seniors about credit through a program sponsored by the bank and the American Bankers Association. He is also a charter member of the Rotary Club.

With this being said I can't think of a better person to represent the City's interest and be a true ambassador to our exemplary schools. I feel Jay would be an asset to the City Council and sincerely hope voters will agree.

Laura Campbell
Bullard resident

Editor,

"It's About Honesty" is just an empty campaign slogan.

The many volunteers that have served on Bullard City Council — from its historic past to present day — have achieved many accomplishments of which they may be proud. That is where one finds true reward in community service.

In a recent campaign advertisement, Teresa Adams-Wilks listed Bullard's improved water system as one of her accomplishments. I consider the water well, elevated storage tank, and improved delivery system to be among the greatest achievements of the responsible Council and Mayor; However, Teresa Adams-Wilks is not one of the Council members that can count this accomplishment among hers.

A committee was put together early in 2005 to research the needs of our water system along with our ability to finance the needed improvements. Construction on the water well began in September of 2006, just four short months into Wilks' first term. Council and this appointed committee spent many months doing research and decision-making on this project before Wilks was elected. Little work on the project was required of council after Wilks came on board — other than approving routine payments to the companies that were completing the project.

Getting a job done to the best of my ability is what is important to me; Who might be recognized for doing the job is not. Those that know me know that to be true; However, in light of the negativity, mud-slinging politics, and smoke-and-mirror advertising used in Wilks' campaign — to mislead the people of Bullard — I felt like Bullard residents deserve to hear the truth.

On the surface, this discrepancy may seem unimportant, but in a campaign where our track record of achievements, our goals for the future of Bullard, along with our character serve to prove our worthiness to retain or achieve a position, shouldn't it all really be about honesty?

Pam Frederick
Incumbent council candidate

Elect David STEWART

FOR CITY COUNCIL



Hello, my name is David Stewart and I'm running for Bullard City Council. My wife Aimee and I have been married for almost 20 years and are proud to call Bullard our home. We have 3 boys, Mack (8th grade), Ben (5th grade) and Clay (2nd grade), who all attend Bullard ISD. I have a degree in Finance and Accounting and have worked in the Insurance and Financial Services industry since 1995. Currently I serve as Chairperson for the Bullard Planning and Zoning Commission and I have almost 8 years of experience in Planning and Zoning including Bullard and Tyler. I have enjoyed working with our current City Council and City Manager and if elected would be honored to continue to work with them for the benefit of our city. As a City Council member, I would strive to build off the work that has already been done while focusing on a Comprehensive Plan for future growth and development with a strategy to preserve the historic aspects of our great city. I would appreciate your vote on May 9th. Remember, early voting starts Tuesday April 27th.

ELECTION DAY MAY 9TH

Pol. Adv. Paid for by David Stewart

Experience. Leadership. Vision. Integrity.

Vote May 9

LET'S KEEP PAM FREDERICK ON THE BULLARD CITY COUNCIL.

My Record of Service Includes:

- 6 years of dedicated service to the voters of Bullard
- O.L. Ferrell Park refurbishing project
- Current street improvement project
- Recruitment of professional city manager
- Improved water supply
- Improvements to wastewater treatment plant
- 1/2 cent sales tax for community improvement projects
- Fiscally stable budget with first-time cash reserves
- ORCA grant for first-time sewer customers



PAM FREDERICK
Council Woman

My Goals Include:

- Completion of Master Transportation Plan to provide guidance for rebuilding streets for long-term durability
- Research funding options for continued improvements to O.L. Ferrell Park
- Completion of wastewater treatment plant expansion project to accommodate current growth
- Research options for further increasing wastewater treatment capacity to accommodate future residential and commercial growth

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Pam Frederick for City Council, 607 Ralson, Bullard, TX 75757