



City of Saratoga Springs

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PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOR SCOTT JOHNSON ANNOUNCES RE-ELECTION BID

Spa City Mayor stresses consistency in leadership

Saratoga Springs Mayor Scott T. Johnson has announced he will seek re-election to a second term. The announcement ends months of public speculation whether he would run again. His term began January 2008 and runs just two years.

"Now more than ever, it's important to have consistency in leadership to face economic uncertainty", said Mayor Johnson. The City is indeed facing economic uncertainty as it recently lost \$1.8 million in VLT revenue cut from the New York State annual budget adopted in April. "As designated CEO of the City under our Charter, I was pleased to join with my fellow City Council members when we adopted our 2009 budget last Fall to present a 0% tax increase, to benefit our taxpayers. Unfortunately, we could not foresee this latest revenue cut from the State which overly impacts us, now that we are mid-year into our budget. Obviously, the City Council will be reopening the 2009 budget and, in fact, has already begun budget workshops to identify where further cuts can be made or revenue generated. This certainly is not the time for the City to elect anyone that does not have a proven track record and has not earned the public trust", added the Mayor.

As part of his platform, Mayor Johnson stresses the necessity to maintain fiscal conservatism, to strike the balance of preservation with the need to expand our tax base and lessen the tax burden, and to promote hallmark business practices within City Hall of efficiency, productivity and customer service. Equally important is the necessity of professionalism, demeanor and maintaining integrity in City government. "I've always believed that it is not just desired, but imperative, that elected officials set an example, especially for our youth, of professionalism and integrity. There's something inherently wrong with not demanding from your elected officials the same sense of values and character that you, as a parent, set for your children. I believe we've made great strides toward regaining the confidence of our community in the Office of the Mayor, in just one year since taking office. I pledge to continue my efforts to deliver a Mayor's office that our City both deserves and expects", stated Mayor Johnson.

Nearly a lifelong City resident, Mayor Johnson believes he is best suited to deliver what the community wants. he stated, "I try to never lose sight of the perspective of having been raised here and having the wisdom to return to our community over 22 years ago. During my term, I'm proud of having reached out to every part of our community, to best represent all Saratogians."

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