

Who is Nicholas James Ryder?

A 22 year Keene Resident

While growing up just a few street blocks from downtown Keene, Ryder attended Franklin Elementary School, Keene Middle School, and Keene High School. Over the past few years, he has turned his hobby of videography into a business in addition to his regular full-time job. With trusting local customers, Ryder keeps busy handling event videography needs.

One voice (of many) of freedom in Keene

In his spare time, Ryder has found interest in local court and City Council processes, which has led him to join the ballot as a choice for the 2009 Keene Municipal Elections

FreeKeene.com Blogger

Over 2 years ago, Ryder became one of the first bloggers on the well-known local site FreeKeene.com. The site highlights local activist with the goal to promote freedom from illogical and immoral restrictions that government places on private citizens.

While often controversial issues are approached and reported on, Ryder's City Council run is a serious attempt to bring more ideas of smaller government to the Council and the public eye.

How to Vote:

Any Keene resident can register to vote all the way up to, and including, the day of the elections. Day-of registrants should go to their polling place to register. Prior to that, go to the clerk's office in the first floor of City Hall.

To find your ward:

Visit: http://www.ci.keene.nh.us/street-index

Polling Locations:

Ward 1: Wheelock School
24 Adams Street
(Corner Marlboro Street and Adams Street)

Ward 2: Keene Parks & Rec. Dept. 312 Washington Street

Ward 3: Fuller School 422 Elm Street

Ward 4: Symonds School 79 Park Avenue

Ward 5: Keene High School 43 Arch Street

*Polls are open 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM The Primary Election is October 6th. The General Election is November 3rd.

Nick Ryder

At-Large City Council 2009



Smaller Government
More Freedom
Every Issue
Every Time

What are the Pressing Issues in Keene?

Property Rights

Ordinances which restrict or attempt to control peaceful behavior or building development within one's own home or business is unconstitutional and not the role of civil government. The only moral vote on such proposed ordinances is an unwavering "NO".

Public Property Use

The requirement to request a license to engage in private transaction on public property indicates that selling goods is thought of as a privilege, not a right. Ryder believes all citizens have the right to responsibly use public property without bureaucratic hurdles.

Neighborly Living

An unfortunate evolution in society has taught many people that the first solution to their problems with others is police and government intervention. Government adds more steps to problem solving than is usually necessary, and should be a last-resort. Ryder hopes to encourage all people to live their lives respectfully and peacefully.



What are the Goals for the Future?

Encourage Keene's Government to be "hands off".

The unfortunate nature of government is to control - through ordinances, licensing, registrations, permits, and more. However, most of these processes are nothing more than methods of revenue and control, rather than protection of individuals. The best government is the one that governs least.

Protect Rights - Restore Freedom

The accepted constitutional role of government is to protect the life, liberty, and property of citizens. However, government programs that appeal to such things as the "general welfare" or the "public good" are usually excuses to take property from some and re-distribute it to others. Such actions are not a protection of liberty or property.

While nice to have, services which are not essential to the above protection of life, liberty, or property, is really a misuse of government money. It is unfair to tax citizens for a variety of services they do not use. Voluntary and market-based funding for such things is far superior.

Promote Personal Freedom

In the perfect world, government would not prosecute perpetrators of victimless crimes. While the City Council can not change state law, it can encourage law enforcement to take a more moral approach toward enforcing laws that are unjust toward people who have not harmed anyone.

Taking non-violent wage earners from the community on drug charges and traffic offenses, and spending time and money to prosecute them, accomplishes nothing toward protecting citizens' liberty, and actually becomes a burden on their tax money and overall wealth.



I agree with you.

I voted for you.

You didn't win.

How do I continue to promote your ideas?

Join the community at FreeKeene.com. Do not be afraid to come alongside the activists there and speak up for personal liberty. Come learn about what they are doing, and maybe we'll see you at a courthouse protest in the future.