



CURRENT AND FORMER KNOXVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ENDORSE MANNIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Knoxville, TN July 30, 2019 – Four current and former Knoxville City Council members, including two at-large members, have all endorsed Eddie Mannis for Mayor. All four cited his executive experience, both as an entrepreneur and as a Deputy Mayor.

“He’s built a successful business,” says current At-large Councilman George Wallace. “He understands hiring, he understands HR and Civil Service. With 1600 City employees, that’s a key skill. Just as importantly, he understands the necessity of keeping a lid on expenses and balancing it with our revenue.”

Nick Pavlis, who served both At-large and two terms in District 1 says “The reason I support Eddie is because he is a proven businessman who knows how to meet a payroll. I put him head and shoulders above the other candidates.”

Mannis served as Deputy Mayor of Knoxville for two years. Mayor Madeline Rogero turned to Mannis for day to day management of City government when she was first elected.

Brenda Palmer served two terms representing the 3rd District. “When I served on council, I had a front row seat to efficiencies, leadership and management skills Eddie brought to the city. We need his skills and leadership to guide Knoxville as the next mayor.”

“No training wheels necessary,” says former 4th District Councilman Nick Della Volpe. “We are, in essence, filling a top executive position, where the ability to manage a substantial budget and to manage a diverse team of some 1600 professionals and daily workers is important. That is a learned skill, one which he already possesses.”

The Councilmembers also cited all that Mannis has done outside of his business and government service.

“His community service is strong,” says Pavlis. “He is the guy who started Honor Air in Knoxville. He has chaired both the Airport Authority and the Zoo, both of which flourished and grew under his leadership.”

“He has shown a lifelong passion for service and this community,” says Wallace. “He has shown great leadership in organizations with which he has served.”

“Eddie Mannis has not only built his own business from the ground up,” says Della Volpe, “but has shown community dedication while doing it.”

“I served on the Zoo Board when Eddie became chair, and he helped turn the zoo around and make it a world class attraction. Eddie will be a Mayor we can all be proud of,” says Palmer. “His values are our values.”

“Given that almost nobody has a better handle on what the City needs in a Mayor than members of Council, these are incredibly gratifying endorsements,” says Mannis. “The fact that these four people worked with all the major candidates and then endorse me makes me want to work and campaign even harder so I can get into office and make them proud.”

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