Howie Hawkins for City Auditor

GREEN PARTY, ROW D
VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

The basic issue is simple. The incumbent, Marty Masterpole, is not doing the job. I will.

With all the big problems Syracuse faces – high poverty, struggling schools, failing infrastructure, fiscal distress – we can't afford a City Auditor who is slacking on the job.

Independent. As a Green in a city where every elected official is a Democrat, I will have the independence to provide needed checks and balances in city government. I will do audits that may not be welcome by some, but they can help the Mayor, Council, and city departments and agencies do their jobs better.

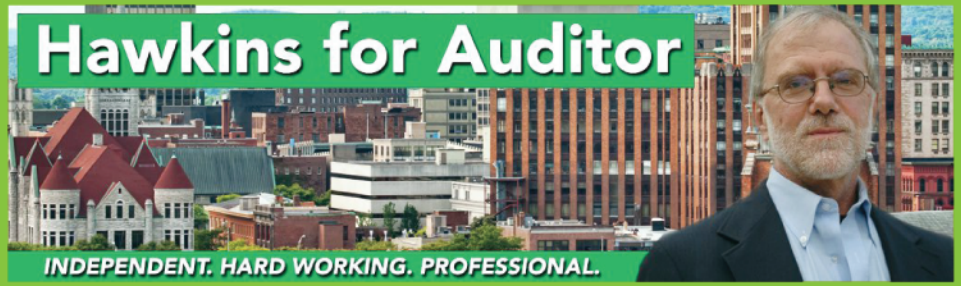
Hard Working. From a lifetime of working on construction sites and loading docks, I know that you have to work hard and produce to keep your job. Masterpole is under-producing. The city budget expects 8 financial audits and 3 special audits per year. Masterpole has produced 4 audits per year. The previous auditor produced up to 14 audits per year. I will work hard to meet the expectations spelled out in the city budget and city charter for the City Auditor.

Professional. The city charter requires the hiring of a Deputy City Auditor who is a professional – a Certified Public Accountant or a professional with at least three years experience in municipal auditing. Masterpole hired a crony for Deputy Auditor who is not qualified. He pushed out an 11-year supervisory civil service auditor by eliminating her $56,000 position and then offering to hire her back as an entry level auditor at $43,000. His budget provides for a staff of four, but he has hired only three. I will hire a qualified Deputy City Auditor and quality civil service staff so that the City Auditor's Office has the capacity to do audits that meet current U.S. Government Auditing Standards.

The City Auditor's Office could be doing so much more to help our city. Under Masterpole, it is squandering its $216,531 annual budget. Masterpole's audits of the city ice rink and golf courses were not high priorities given the serious challenges our city faces. *I will prioritize special audits that address the big issues and risks the city faces*, such as long-term fiscal sustainability, infrastructure planning, the fiscal impact of school receivership, cable & fiber optic franchises, environmental audits, segregation and poverty, predatory lending, and the costs of drug law enforcement.

Hawkins for Auditor **www.howiehawkins.org**

Hawkins for Auditor



INDEPENDENT. HARD WORKING. PROFESSIONAL.

howie hawkins .org

Howie Hawkins lives on the South Side of Syracuse. He works at UPS unloading trucks, where he is a member of Teamsters Local 317. He is the Treasurer for the Southside Community Coalition and for the Eat To Live Food Cooperative.

Howie has been an organizer in movements for peace, justice, labor, and the environment since 1967. A former Marine, he helped organize opposition to the Vietnam War. He was a co-founder of the anti-nuclear Clamshell Alliance in 1976 and the Green Party in the US in 1984.

After attending Dartmouth College in the early 1970s, Howie worked in construction and co-founded a workers cooperative that specialized in energy efficiency and solar and wind installations. Howie moved to Syracuse in 1991 to develop cooperatives for CommonWorks, a federation of cooperatives that was committed to an economy that is cooperatively owned, democratically controlled, and ecologically sustainable.

As the Green Party's candidate for New York Governor in 2014, Howie campaigned for a ban on fracking, 100% clean energy by 2030, a $15 minimum wage, an end to Governor Cuomo's test-punish-and-privatize education agenda, and for progressive taxes and revenue sharing as the alternative to Cuomo's cuts to schools, cities, and public services. Howie received 5% of the vote, moving the Green Party up the ballot from Row F to Row D.

Syracuse Green Party Candidates

www.syracusegreens.org

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