



Candidates on Riverdale ballot sweep election despite write-in campaign

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SUBURBAN TRENDS

Despite a last-minute write-in campaign, the unchallenged GOP team came out the victors in last Tuesday's election.

Councilman Paul Carelli won the mayor's seat with 573 votes, and newcomers Dave Desai and Matthew Oswald gathered 560 and 539 votes, respectively.

Mayor William Budesheim said he and his team decided to run a last-minute write-in campaign and managed to capture the support of 30 percent of the voters who came out the polls.

Of the 248 write-in votes for mayor, Budesheim collected 230 of them. Gary Mastrangelo and William Felegi drew 170 and 218 write-in votes, respectively, for the two open seats on the Borough Council.

Budesheim was pleased to get a chunk of the vote.

"For us to get 248 write-ins on a two-day campaign was extraordinary, and, quite frankly, unbelievable. We do believe that if our names were on the ballot this time around, we probably would have won," he said.

— Leslie Scott

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