

## Letter: Tale of two Port St. Lucie mayoral candidate interviews, and why we support Oravec

Robert Calderin

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Recently, an associate and I vetted two mayoral candidates for Port St. Lucie mayor: Jim Rich and Greg Oravec. We assessed that they were the front-runners to challenge the incumbent, whom we are not supporting.

We found Oravec insightful and considerate. He provided well-thought-out responses. Over approximately two hours, he demonstrated that he was an active listener and a knowledgeable go-getter. He respected our opinions, let us say what had to be said without being condescending or patronizing. He shared his vision and platform to help make Port St. Lucie a "City for All Ages." It was a real positive experience.

Rich was another story. He could not get our names correctly even after several corrections. Then, he assumed we would sign his petition to be a candidate and lectured us about the electoral process.

Amazingly, he started the conversation describing his unsolicited position on the legalization of marijuana. Huh?

He kept talking and interrupting when he should have been listening to the potential voters in front of him. Interacting with Rich was like scratching a blackboard. He talked himself out of contention.

Notwithstanding the other candidates, in our view, Oravec will be good for our hometown. We urge all readers to study the candidates carefully. There are many reasons to get the next mayoral election right with over 160,000 people living in Port St. Lucie. As for me, I will do my part to help Oravec make Port St. Lucie a "City for All Ages."

