

# Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:35 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Jen Hill

### 2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

Roeland Park, Ward 2

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 4320 Elledge Drive

City/State/Zip : Roeland Park

### 4. Phone Number

8165365029

### 5. Email Address

jenhillforroelandpark@gmail.com

### 6. Campaign Website

<https://www.jenhillforroelandpark.com>

## 2. Candidate Background

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### 7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

I have been in public school education for the past 26 years. I am currently an Instructional Coach at the High School level in KCKPS.

### 8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

Instructional Coach in KCKPS

Team Lead in KCKPS

Literacy First Consultant

### 9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

Council President

Council Member

Police Policy Review Committee

Arts Committee

Sustainability Committee

The 47 Committee

Community Engagement Committee

## 3. Issues and Policy

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### 10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (100 words or less)

My top three policy issues are creating an inclusive community for all residents, creating an environmentally sustainable community for all ages, and ensuring that taxes and policies are fair for all residents.

**11. What are your views on the services and value the City's citizens receive for their local tax dollars? (100 words or less)**

Roeland Park offers a wide variety of services for residents from the leaf pick up to the amazing new Aquatics Center. My goal is to maintain the current amenities and grow future programs as the needs arise, while maintaining the current mill rate.

**12. What changes, if any, would you like to see to the City budget? (100 words or less)**

Roeland Park's budget regularly receives accolades on how well it is recorded and maintained. I would like to see those awards continue in the way of our financing department. We currently use a pay-as-you-go approach for most of the needs in the city. I do believe that taking out bonds for major development is smart when we space the payments out over time--then all residents contribute over time rather than just those living in the city at the time of construction. I believe there is always room for improvement, and I look forward to tightening the expenses where applicable.

**13. What role, if any, do you believe the City should play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to the community? (100 words or less)**

Bringing jobs, economic development, and capital investment to Roeland Park is a top priority. During my tenure on City Council, Roeland Park has added the following businesses: Commerce Bank, St. Luke's Community Hospital, Sunflower Medical Group, Advent Heath, Prides Cleaners, and more. We owe it to our residents to make the city an equitable place for all to work, live, and enjoy.

**14. As the City considers future development and redevelopment projects, describe your views on how the City should best manage and balance growth? (100 words or less)**

Roeland Park is missing some crucial developments such as restaurants and entertainment. With limited space, we must find ways to create mixed use facilities which can offer a balanced approach toward development within our limited space.

**15. What is your philosophy on the role the City should play in terms of metro-area issues? (100 words or less)**

Roeland Park has been and should continue to be a leader in metro-area issues. We need to take the lead to always do what is right for our residents and considering the local cities are all small, we must join together to make progress happen.

**16. What do you believe the takeaways for the City should be, if any, from the COVID-19 pandemic experience? (100 words or less)**

The biggest take-away for me has been to always lead by example! If I expect others to behave in certain ways, I must be the first one out there publicly doing what I am asking of others. I am still making because it is highly recommended and hope that others will follow suit.

**17. What do you believe are the greatest challenges the City faces over the next ten years and how would you address them? (100 words or less)**

The greatest challenges Roeland Park will face in the next ten years is in redevelopment. We must incentives businesses to come to our city. We also need to encourage current businesses to make improvements in the sake of progress when using TIF monies.

**18. Why are you seeking this public office? (100 words or less)**

I am seeking re-election because I have seen tremendous growth during my first term and believe that I have more work to accomplish within our city.

**19. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve in this position and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)**

My experience on council has been productive. The twenty-six years I have worked as a public school educator has trained me for community service and I wish to continue to give back to my community in my areas of strength.