

# Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:32 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Karen Shelor Sexton

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

At Large City Council

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 4940 State Line Road

City/State/Zip : Westwood Hills

### 4. Phone Number

19135794406

### 5. Email Address

kls@sextonandshelor.com

### 6. Campaign Website

n/a

## 2. Candidate Background

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

Attorney specializing in niche industry divorce litigation

### 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.

Johnson County Bar Association

Wyandotte County Bar Association

Westwood Hills Historic Foundation (former president)

Westwood Hills Homes Association (former president)

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

Climate Ambassador for MARC

Member of Climate Coalition

Campaigned for Sen. Ethan Corson and State School Representative Melanie Haas

## 3. Issues and Policy

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

I am assigned to Public Safety and work closely with our police chief and department. Strong active for community policing and our co-responder program which is supported by the WWPD.

I believe strongly in pushing to complete our infrastructure plan which will redo 50th and State Line, resurface State Line and

an alley, and hopefully be able to complete our plan to redo our pocket park with an accessible walking path with lighting.

Continuing with our systematic code enforcement every three years and to comply and support the code requirements for compliance with our designation as a National Historic District.

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

There is great value for citizens for their tax dollars. We have one part-time employee. Being on the Council is pure DIY. I have done everything from trimming trees to moving police barricades. No job too big or small. We are a volunteer City.

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

I don't have any changes to the City budget. We just finished our first draft of our budget and are not going to seek any tax increases. We are extremely frugal.

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**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)**

Westwood Hills is a residential City that is a National Historic District. We have only one shopping district with four tenants. We, as residents, strongly support our local businesses.

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**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)**

We manage our growth by supporting our National Historic District and by code enforcement. In the event of any teardowns or home additions, we will make sure that no over-building occurs.

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

Westwood Hills is a small city in the middle of a giant metro area with 11,000 cars passing down Rainbow Boulevard each day. We are an excellent example of dealing with a diverse population living and coming through our City. We have active residents and we are a good example of working together to have a "live in place" city for people of all ages and diversity.

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

We all worked together and supported science, the Governor and County Commission regarding public safety requirements.

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**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)**

We are addressing our current infrastructure issues proactively, plus we are saving for the next generation to have cash on hand to make infrastructure repairs when the same will need to be made.

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

I love working with our residents and fellow Council Members. I have a great deal of respect for our Mayor and staff person. In particular, working in my role regarding public safety and with the the police department has been very satisfying. This is a hand's on and hand's on deck job.

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**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)**

I have served as president for many years of both the Westwood Hills Historic Foundation and Homes Association. I have personally restored our home and understand the importance of our National Historic District for our property values. Noteworthy, I led the petition drive for our Council to successfully apply for National Historic District status.

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