



2017 City Council Candidate Questionnaire

1.) As a member of the Lincoln City Council it will be your responsibility to prioritize spending tax dollars between departments, programs, and services.

➤ **What is your top priority for Lincoln?**

This is a very unfair question. I want to do it all 😊

I would listen to the residents of the city and attempt to prioritize their wishes as much as possible. From the list you provided I would rank them: 1) departments, 2) services and 3) programs.

2.) Residential property owners in the City of Lincoln are faced this year with a total re-valuation of property by the Lancaster County Assessor's office. Early indications point to a potential double-digit increase in overall property values and subsequently, higher property tax revenue for all taxing authorities.

➤ **Should the City of Lincoln adjust its levy to match previously budgeted revenues?**

Yes, the levy should be adjusted during the next budget cycle.

➤ **If the City of Lincoln were to leave the current levy rate in place, what should it do with the excess dollars?**

The current levy should be lowered. I would vote against leaving it in place as it exists now.

While there are competing interests for funding, I would like to focus on city department staffing and delivery of services. That includes police and fire department staffing issues.

3.) Road, water, storm water, waste water, and technological infrastructure are the building blocks for business and residential growth in Lincoln. The State of Nebraska allows cities the authority to expand their local option sales tax by an additional one-half-percent – so long as the dollars are earmarked for "infrastructure projects"

➤ **What is your position regarding expanding the local option sales tax rate in an effort to fund infrastructure projects?**

All options should be considered including an increase in the sales tax. Lincoln residents are smart. When presented with the facts and transparent plans for growth, they will support efforts to increase revenue.

4). The Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development operates as a public/private partnership between the City of Lincoln and the business community. The Partnership has been directly responsible for the growing national attention regarding the positive business climate in Lincoln.

- **Do you support the continuation of the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development and its public/private efforts to grow Lincoln's economy?**

Yes, indeed. I support the continuation of many of the public/private partnerships that have provided progress in our community.

5.) Talent attraction and retention are a key component in determining Lincoln's success over the next decade as employers look to fill positions in a rapidly expanding workforce.

- **How can the City of Lincoln help attract and retain a vibrant and talented workforce?**

The city needs to maintain and improve upon all the factor and qualities that have put us on several of the top 10 lists nationally: Parks, Trails, Schools, Arts and Entertainment. Quality of life issues.

6). Why should Lincoln Chamber of Commerce members support your bid for elected office?

I will bring a different perspective, a working person's perspective, to the council. A perspective which champions continued growth and includes the voices of a broad spectrum of residents.