

Questions for Candidates for Municipalities from the Conservative Coalition of Montgomery County

Please be concise & clear.

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| 1. | Please list what government expenditures you are committed to significantly reduce or cancel, and explain why and how you propose to achieve the reductions. |
| | Answer: The largest expenditure that is budgeted for the 2011-2012 fiscal year is the city contingency fund. I would propose that the council determine the necessity of such a large fund that is not specifically committed to a certain expense or set of expenses. I would also question the State Court costs. I would assure that all current court costs are paid to the state and that the agreed upon arrear amount is paid according to the agreement. The fuel expense for the police department is excessive. I would require all officers to keep a hand written daily log that would be submitted at the end of every shift. |

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| 2. | Please describe the top 3 specific initiatives will you most strongly promote and why. |
| | Answer: I would promote an annual audit of all city income, expenditures and cash on hand. This would be done by the Certified Public Accountant retained by the city. Next, I would make sure the budget would be prepared according to state law with the CPA's financial statements attached. Third, I would make sure all records that did not contain account numbers, credit card numbers or any other identifying information be made open to the public upon request. |

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| 3. | Please explain why you will or will not vote to limit budget increases to a factor based on population growth and inflation. |
| | Answer: Budget increases should be limited to population growth and inflation. I do not want to add any debt to the city or its citizens. |

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| 4. | Please explain why you do or do not support requiring a 2/3 approval by voters <u>and</u> city council / aldermen for bond issues to pass. |
| | Answer: I believe our government should be representative of the people. Therefore, I agree that the citizens, as well as the council, should approve all issues by a 2/3 vote. |

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| 5. | Please explain why you will or will not vote to increase municipal debt to fund road construction/maintenance. |
| | Answer: Increasing municipal debt is the last thing that I would want to do. If an emergency situation arises, I would agree to increase debt for road repair if it was hazardous to the public. |

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| 6. | Please describe what needs or conditions would prompt you to change the current tax rate or exemptions and why. |
| | Answer: If the city was unable to run within a constricted budget, I would propose a tax rate increase. I would request that at least three public hearings be held before such an increase would be adopted. |

7. Please describe what you will do to improve current contracting practices.
Answer: I would make sure that all city contracts be posted in the newspaper and on the internet. If a sufficient number of bids is not received that would assure the lowest possible price, I would have the need for services reposted if time permits.
8. Please explain why you will or will not vote to award any contract with less than two qualified bidders.
Answer: I would not want to approve a single bid on a contract. If time permits, I would repost the job or contact appropriate contractors to ask if they would like to bid.
9. Please describe how you have you ever reduced the size, scope, power, or expense of government or promoted such. Please describe when & why you took that action.
Answer: I have never promoted such an event.
10. Please explain why you will or will not vote to fine businesses that knowingly employ illegal aliens.
Answer: Any business that breaks the law should be prosecuted.
11. Please explain what creative ideas, within the bounds of current law, you introduce to address the illegal alien problem in your municipality.
Answer: I believe in fair treatment of all people. I believe illegal aliens should be given the opportunity to abide by all immigration laws. If they choose not to take advantage of becoming law abiding workers and citizens, they are in violation of the law.
12. Please explain why you do or do not favor having the city check register on-line and available to the public.
Answer: I believe all records that are not exceptions to the open records law should be made available on-line to the public. Placing these items on-line allow you to build a relationship based on trust with your citizens.
13. Please explain why you do or do not favor spousal benefits for same-sex partners of municipal employees.
Answer: I would enforce all federal, state and local laws. Same-sex marriage is illegal in the state of Texas, so I would not favor breaking the law.
14. Please describe your top 3 priorities during your upcoming term & what your plans are for each.
Answer: 1. Financial practices of the city are reasonable and justifiable to the citizens. I would make sure expenditures didn't exceed income. 2. All records shall be open to the public except ones that are listed as exceptions by the Texas Attorney General. 3. Make sure there are programs for our citizens that improve the moral of our city. I would like to maintain a partnership with our local school district to provide after school and educational services for our children.

- 15 Please list what government welfare programs should be provided by your municipality and how the funding level & sources of each should be determined.
Answer: Low income and elderly welfare programs should be provided if funds are available to support them. I would research grants and volunteer services programs to help make this possible.
- 16 Please explain your criteria for granting tax abatements.
Answer: Municipalities need business revenue to thrive in today's economy. Tax abatements should be used as incentives to attract local business.