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Page 1

Q1

Candidate Name

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Q2

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Q3

Ward 10

Ward/Constituency

Page 2

Q4

What do you envision the City's role to be in economic development?

The city has a very important role of identifying and correctly prioritizing the avenues of future economic developments. Being in the driving seat, the city has to ensure that we move in correct direction and take right initiatives. This would create lucrative and attractive investments options for the investors to join hands with us and contribute in our city's future economic development.

Q5

How can the City help businesses survive through the COVID-19 pandemic?

By easing out on late payments, defaults and surcharges etc. and providing relief in licensing fees and other charges that directly come out of pockets. No more increases in property tax at least for 2021 and preferably beyond that.

Q6

Crime and safety are key election issues. What is your plan to address these concerns, including your position on defunding the police?

I am strongly against defunding of Police. Saskatoon is not at that stage yet and we need an effective policing of the city. I understand the importance of other measures, such as rehabilitation and therapies, but I do not think it is an either and or situation here between the two. We need both elements to be working in sync with each other and compliment each other's efforts. only then we can achieve an effective control over crime.

Q7

What are your priorities for major capital projects in Saskatoon?

My priority would be to wisely re-evaluate these on the basis of Needs vs Wants and then decide whether we need to go ahead with these or not. If the city is unable to provide us very basic primary need, such as snow cleaning, without non-stop hikes in the property tax, we are definitely going wrong somewhere in our spending.

Q8

Do you share the concerns many residents and businesses have regarding increased taxes and user fees?

Yes,

Please elaborate::

As I have already explained above, it appears that current council's priorities are not right. On one end we are aiming at mega projects and on the other we are strangulating the very base, the residents, who elected them with a confidence that they would think better. a common man and small business owner would at present be more concerned about what goes directly out of his pocket rather than what a new arena would bring after 10 years. Let us consolidate and re-think. I am sure we have lot of room within our existing budget where we can bring the expenses down and resultant provide a relief in taxation and fees to the residents.

Q9

What steps would you recommend the City take to curb or mitigate rising operational costs?

Same as above. Smart spending and eliminating the wants in favour of needs until the right time.

Q10

If necessary, would you support any initiatives City Administration may take to freeze or even reduce staffing levels?

No,

Please elaborate::

Principally I am in favour of right sizing the organizational setup. However, right in the middle of Covid 19 is not the right time to bring this on the table. I will not support any idea at present that may result in job insecurity of professional anxiety for anyone. let us hold on until the right time and then bring it back in the discussion.

Q11

How do you believe that the City should spend COVID-19 relief money provided by the provincial or federal government? Do you believe that relief money should be spent in the area for which it is specified (e.g. infrastructure, etc.)?

Yes.

Q12

Do you believe the decision regarding the Main Library funding/debt should be revisited?

Yes,

Please elaborate::

This decision needs to be reevaluated by the city council which is an elected body by the residents of Saskatoon. Library Board is not an elected body and thus should not be weighing in on such large projects without due process via council, the elected body.

Q13

What is your #1 priority on your election platform?

Direct relief to the residents through smart management and right priorities.
