

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, October 28, 2020 4:16:27 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, October 28, 2020 4:39:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:23:29
IP Address: 70.64.64.24

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Name

Bobbi Ehman

Q2

Email Address (for follow-up only)

EhmanWard3@outlook.com

Q3

ward 3

Ward/Constituency

Page 2

Q4

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

Right now the city's role is too clamp down on spending, large capital projects, and help our small business owners. Once we get the budget and Covid under control, then we need to take a fresh look at what economic development should look like.

Q5

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

Unfortunately the city can't afford to bail everyone out; however, they can help small businesses promote themselves, especially with the upcoming holiday season. Thanks to Covid things have changed, and it's going to take a long time to establish a new normal, so the best the city can do is show they care, and help promote small stores and restaurants.

Q6

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

I do not support defunding police, nor will I tell police officers how to do their jobs. My goal is to trim the city budget in all aspects with the exception of police and fire services. Crime is getting worse every day, so I want to hire more officers, have emergency operators do more thorough screening, and make sure our police have all the training and resources they need to perform their jobs safely.

Q7

What are your priorities for major capital projects in Saskatoon?

Right now my priorities are to reassess all capital projects that require city funding. The new library either needs to be shelved for now, or downsized dramatically, or both. I'd also like to see large projects like the new library, new arena, etc, be funded solely by private donations. Tax payers in this city can not afford any more tax increases to cover these projects, and private donors seem like a better fit.

Q8

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

Covid has Saskatoon families and businesses into a financial tailspin. We have no precedence for this, other than the Great Depression. As I mentioned previously, my first goal is to trim the budget, reassess capital projects, and recover from Covid. I truly believe that by trimming enough in the right areas, property tax increases should be kept to the absolute lowest minimum.

Q9

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

Trim the budget, re-evaluate operating systems, and possibly a hiring freeze until things get better.

Q10

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

I won't reduce staff; however, yes I would support a hiring freeze until the financial situation improves. We may lose some staff (retirement, maternity, etc) in the meantime that wouldn't be immediately replaced, but I'm sure their responsibilities could be reassigned to other staffers.

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.)?

If funding is given to the city for a specific purpose, then yes it should be used as written. If the city receives general government funding, then it should be used where needed the most.

Q12

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

Yes it does need to be revisited. I'm sure when the city signed these contracts, the city solicitor must have made sure there were adequate clauses that would allow the city to reverse its support in event they couldn't fulfill their obligations. Nobody knew how devastating Covid was going to be, and we aren't done yet. I cannot justify the city's financial commitment to this project. The library needs to be reduced to half the size, and funded solely by private contributions.

Q13

What is your #1 priority on your election platform?

Trim the budget!! I want to keep future property tax increases to an absolute minimum, and this is how we start.
