

#31

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, November 02, 2020 11:27:11 AM
Last Modified: Monday, November 02, 2020 11:49:53 AM
Time Spent: 00:22:42
IP Address: 70.64.117.170

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Name

Randy Donauer

Q2

Email Address (for follow-up only)

teamdonauer@gmail.com

Q3

Ward 5

Ward/Constituency

Page 2

Q4

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

The City should encourage economic investment and development through keeping taxes low, eliminating red tape and bureaucracy, and providing proper transportation infrastructure for commercial and industrial business.

Q5

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

We can offer deferral of property taxes. We also need to tighten our belt and trim our spending at City Hall to reduce expenditures so we can keep tax increases down. Residents and businesses have had to adjust to hard times in COVID. The City should too.

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 opposed to defunding police. We need to make sure the police are funded adequately to both prevent crime, and police it. We need ensure police are deployed to patrol in areas where their presence can prevent crime, not just respond to it. We need more police presence downtown 24/7, and more police presence in the north industrial.

Q7

What are your priorities for major capital projects in Saskatoon?

I think plans for major capital projects should be reviewed in light of COVID. My number one priority would be a recreation centre in the North East corner of the City. We have built multiple new neighbourhoods in the past 3 decades, with no community centre with a pool or hockey rink. Once the economy takes off again, I support an entertainment district downtown. If done right, we can attract private sector investment to keep the burden on taxes down, while attracting investment and tourism and creating a boost to our economy. I voted against the new library.

Q8

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

Businesses already pay a higher rate of taxes than residences. I fought over the past 2 terms of Council to have the business to residential property tax ratio reduced from 1.75% to 1.4%... one the lowest ratios in western Canada. Lower taxes will lead to more business attraction and investment in our community. User fees can simply be another form of tax. We need to make sure that fees are only covering the cost of essential infrastructure and services, and are not excessive.

Q9

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

Council can impose an efficiency mandate on City Hall and mandate that each department find 2% efficiency per year to ensure we are doing things smarter and cheaper. I have proposed this in the past and I still believe it can be done. Even a cost savings of 1% per year would save millions of dollars. If business can do it, so can City Hall.

Q10

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

Yes, I have already proposed a hiring freeze in the past, and my motion was approved by Council. On average, City Hall has hired approximately 60 new employees per year. I have consistently resisted that level of personnel growth.

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.)?

The provincial money is required to be spent on infrastructure. I support that, as most of our infrastructure spending is tendered out to private business. That has the double benefit of improving our core infrastructure and injecting millions of dollars into the local economy to keep businesses afloat and people employed. We can do the same with the federal money.

Q12

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

Yes,

Please elaborate::

I voted against the library project originally. It is too much money for this one project. Now, with COVID, I believe that even more.

Q13

What is your #1 priority on your election platform?

Fiscal Responsibility (lower taxes and controlled spending). A close second is safety.. especially downtown.
