

If the economy continues on its current path, what is the first step you would take to reduce spending? Would you cut jobs?

As Mayor, I will put an immediate freeze on all large purchases. I will then establish standards that all large purchases must meet. These standards will require proof of need. The justification will include an analysis of alternate solutions including rebuilding, what the implications of delaying the purchase would be and possibilities for outsourcing. The request will need to provide a return on investment analysis ensuring that the purchase will be paid for in a short period of time and identifying the savings that would be created by the purchase. This method of review is standard procedure for most, if not all, industries. Once the department head has justified the need and met the standards, the information will be given to the city council for their review and approval. I will require multiple bids or proposals for most, if not all, large purchases. I do not feel that competitive bidding should be waived except in cases where specialized skills or products are required.

As Mayor, I will request a review of staffing in all departments. I will make adjustments to our staffing levels if needed but will only reduce staffing as a last resort. We need to have enough staff in all departments to handle the needs of our residents in a friendly, efficient and helpful manner. This may mean a restructuring of some of the positions or hours.

How specifically, can voters distinguish your approach from your opponents' on economic development? On job growth?

Economic development is one of the most important issues facing the city. I believe that we need to provide a consistent, profession, and united approach to attracting businesses to Plano. We need to reach out to businesses to show them that we want them to locate here. Where necessary, we need to be prepared to offer incentives to encourage businesses to locate in Plano. However, the use of incentives is something that needs to be closely controlled. Businesses that are granted incentives must meet established standards and agree to stay in the city and to provide jobs. We must remember that any new business that locates in Plano will bring us new tax dollars. If we offer an incentive we will still have more money coming in then we have now. It is the old adage "something is better then nothing". The incentives will expire after a year or so after which we will receive the full tax revenue.

As Mayor, I will partner closely with the Plano Economic Development Corporation. This partnership will show our current businesses that we appreciate what they do for us, we appreciate having them here, and that we want to help them, as well as our citizens, by attracting more businesses to Plano. I will also work with PEDCO to establish a quick response team, made up of business and community leaders to meet with prospective new businesses. We will also work with prospective businesses to obtain grants from various state and federal agencies to help them locate in Plano. The city cannot do this alone, we

must work together. It is important to remember that the power of many has a bigger, stronger and more positive effect than by trying to go it alone.

How will Waubonsee Community College's new campus affect the city's economic future? What should the city be doing to promote development near the new campus?

The new Waubonsee campus will be an anchor for commercial development in the area. We already have a developer marketing one corner the Rt. 34, Waubonsee Drive intersection. The campus brings with it potential customers for convenience-type stores, restaurants and gas stations. When you add the fact that this intersection is also an entrance to the Lakewood Springs subdivision, the land becomes even more attractive to these commercial businesses. The Waubonsee campus will also help promote the development of industrial properties in Plano. This is a result of Waubonsee working with local businesses to provide training specific to the various industries. This is very attractive incentive to new businesses that want to provide good and economical training for their employees.

The city should partner with Waubonsee to promote the benefits that Waubonsee provides to businesses and to our residents. We can show new businesses how many students, their potential customers, are projected to attend the campus. These numbers will bring developers in and thus new businesses.

At least one mayoral candidate expressed concerns about the cost of the new police headquarters. Do you agree with the city's planning and execution of the project? Do you believe a new headquarters is needed?

I absolutely agree that the new headquarters is needed. If any Plano resident questions the need they should tour the current station. I can not believe that anyone would want to work under the conditions that exist in the current building. I believe that some of our officers leave us because of the facilities. We must provide our police force with the space they require and deserve. The current facility does not provide a safe working environment for department employees; criminals are led down narrow halls close enough to bump shoulders with venerable employees. Non-sworn employees are separated from hardened criminal by a light duty bedroom style door. There is no separation of juvenile and adult criminal as required. There is no real locker-room or lunch room. The officers share desks and have very limited space in which to perform their job.

I agree with the process that the city is going through in regards to the new headquarters. I think that the council has been working very diligently on the project and that they have reduced the cost as they moved forward. They are doing a good job in the development and design of this facility. The building started out a very large with a firing range, indoor parking for the police cars and lots of extras. The building had a projected cost of around twenty four million dollars. It has been scaled back to a more reasonable size and cost. As

Mayor, I will make sure that the project moves forward as we continue to look into cost savings. I will make sure that future costs are contained and I will establish a goal for reducing the total cost of the building. I will require that change orders be approved by the council, insuring that they are informed of any issues that may arise. This process will also keep the residents of Plano informed of the progress and any changes to the cost of the building. If the building costs less then what is projected, the extra funds from the bond issue will be used to repay the bonds early or used to repay higher interest bonds that the city already has in place. The city is planning on selling six million dollars in bonds to build a four and half million dollar facility, so there will be additional funds to provide for contingency planning. Now is the time to sell bonds because interest rates are so low.

Without an incumbent running, the city will have new leadership no matter who wins. What previous experience qualifies you more than your opponents to lead on day 1?

I have attended nearly every city council meeting since Kay and I moved to town in 1999. I did not start attending meeting just because an election was coming. I attended because I wanted to know what was going on in city and I wanted to understand why decisions are being made the way they are. I still attend because I am concerned about our city and I want to help our city grow in a responsible manner. I understand the issues the council is dealing with. I know what they do and how they work.

I bring unique experience and perspective to this election. I was an alderman. I have been a member of the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals, Building and Zoning, Personnel and Finance Committees. I was Chairman of the Mayor's Committee for Special Events and the Streets and Utility Committees. I have not been on the council for the past two years. The experience of being on the council then off has allowed me to understand how the council works from the inside and how it appears from the outside. Sitting in the council audience has provided me an opportunity to learn by experiencing and seeing what the residents see. I understand why many residents have a lack of trust in the city government. I am not sure the lack of trust is completely justified but I do see why it exists. The city needs to get more information out to the residents. As Mayor, I will be sure that we get the information out. I will hold town hall meetings, and I will expand our use of the city website. As Mayor, I will work to improve communication both internally and externally.

I have been a professional manager for over 30 years. I have run small to mid-sized manufacturing companies. I have managed and still manage multi-million dollars budgets and million dollar projects. I have managed 40- 50 associate ranging from shop floor employees to other managers and engineers. I know how to analyze problems and how to develop solutions that everyone can embrace. I know the importance of creating a team that can work together to reach the best possible solutions. The future of Plano relies on the very skills and experience that I can provide.

What other issues do you believe will shape the city over the four years?

The city needs to become user friendly. As Mayor, I will find a way for city hall to be open on at least one Saturday a month. This will allow residents who work and need to get a permit or pay a bill a chance to do so. I will improve the city website by adding items like permit forms to it so residents can have access to them at anytime. I will add upcoming ordinances to the website so that residents can see the proposals and comment on them. I will move the council meetings back to a mutually agreeable time that allows working residents the opportunity to attend without having to take time off work.

As Mayor, I will find ways to spread the tax burden so that we can all enjoy a lower tax rate. I will work with the school district to find ways to increase tax revenues by promoting commercial developments that will require less attention with lower costs to the schools and city. I will research what can be done to reduce the utility tax, if not for everyone, at least for our seniors.

Finally, Plano must prepare for the next wave of continuing development. We need to review our development ordinances to be sure that they are providing fiscal protection for our residents. I will ensure that developers pay for items like police cars, snowplows and fund required expansions in services and facilities based on the anticipated increases in population the developments bring to the city.