

The Beacon News

Candidate Questionnaire

If the economy continues on its current path, what is the first step you would take to reduce spending? Would you cut jobs in that effort? See #1 attached.

How, specifically, can voters distinguish your approach from your opponents' on economic development? On job growth? See #2 attached.

How will Waubensee Community College's new campus affect the city's economic future? What should the city be doing to promote development near the new campus? See #3 attached.

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? See #4 attached.

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? See #5 attached.

What other issues do you believe will shape the city over the next four years? See #6 attached.

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1. The first step is to review the entire budget and eliminate all unnecessary operating expenses. The second step is to review the proposed capital expenditures such as vehicle purchases and building construction and postpone those as necessary. The third and final step is to review the staffing levels in the city departments that do not provide for public safety and making cuts as necessary. Job cuts are a last resort.
2. In light of the current economic climate, Plano needs to be very aggressive in their search for economic development. As mayor, I plan to take a primary role in economic development and personally contact prospective retailers and companies in an effort to bring them to Plano. I also plan to have the City partner with developers to develop additional land on Eldamain Road for commercial and industrial use. Job growth in the area will occur with the retail, commercial, and industrial growth.
3. The new Waubensee Community College campus will bring many new people into our city and increase the traffic counts used by prospective retailers. Retail developments have already been approved for the areas around the campus and I expect that those developments along with vacancies in existing developments will begin to be occupied after the campus opens.
4. Let me start by saying that Plano needs a new police station. I do not approve of the proposed design and the accompanying price tag. The proposed design began as a design for a community center and has been modified to accommodate the police station. The proposed design will not allow for a building addition in the future. I spearheaded the successful petition campaign to have the \$6,000,000 bond issue for the police station placed on the April 7 ballot. I have proposed to design a 30,000 square foot building to be built in three 10,000 square foot phases as the police department needs additional space.
5. I have been attending City Council meetings for more than a year so that I am prepared to take office. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting from Aurora University and twenty-six years of proven business management experience operating two successful businesses in Plano. I also have thirteen years experience with a municipality as a Firefighter/Paramedic where I was responsible for budgeting and purchasing station supplies for three fire stations. As Fish Fry Chairman for Boy Scout Troop 71, I have exhibited the leadership skills necessary to successfully manage a large multiday fundraiser for the past four years.
6. I feel that it is important to negotiate boundary agreements with Millbrook and Sandwich in order to complete our comprehensive plan. Plano needs to maintain or improve our relationships with neighboring cities and taxing districts. The cleanup of the Monarch Foundry site and the completion of the City Center Plan will be very challenging unless sufficient grant money is secured. Plano needs to budget the funds necessary to repair our streets and sidewalks that have been neglected for too long. Plano needs to establish and enforce adequate housing codes that will allow us to make our city more attractive.