

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICE

PRESENTED BY RESTORE THE BALANCE, DELTA COUNTY
a nonpartisan, nonprofit, organization

PLEASE RETURN YOUR RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE NOT LATER THAN 5:00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024, BY EMAIL TO: rtbdeltacounty@gmail.com

To Candidate Chris Johnson, City/Town of Crawford

- 1- What qualifications do you have that can give voters confidence that you should be a member of the CRAWFORD municipal government? Please be specific.
7 YEARS ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MASTER'S DEGREE IN CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING, GOOD LISTENER, GOOD COMMUNICATOR. ABLE TO WORK WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIFFERING OPINIONS AND WORLDVIEWS
- 2- By now, upon reading and considering the seven political principles we feel should guide political conduct in Western Colorado.
 - a. Do you endorse each of the seven principles restore the balance feel should guide political conduct in Western Colorado?
IN GENERAL, YES.
 - b. If you endorse them all, please explain how you will work to execute these principles.
AS MAYOR, IT WOULD BE MY JOB TO SET A TONE OF RESPECT AND DECORUM IN MEETINGS AND DISPLAY THAT RESPECT TO OTHERS REGARDLESS OF POSITION OR PARTY.
 - c. If there are any principles you do not endorse, please identify them and explain why.
NA
- 3- It is important to let people know that you put the public interest first. In looking back over the past year or two, are there any decisions CRAWFORD municipal government has made that you do not agree with?
YES

If yes, how would you change them?
I BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY TO RUSH DECISIONS, INCLUDING ORDINANCES WITHOUT AMPLE PUBLIC INPUT OR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD

4- In the aftermath of recent political events, some security experts cite increased risks to local governments from extremist groups which pose a threat to the right to peacefully assemble and to the proper functioning of government.

a. How would you define "extremist" activity and do you view it as a threat to the proper function of municipal government?

EXTREMISTS ARE A RELATIVE SMALL SEGMENT OF THE POPULATION BUT TEND TO HAVE THE LOUDEST VOICES, MAKING THREATS OF VIOLENCE OR DESTROYING PROPERTY OR DISRUPTING MEETINGS OR GATHERINGS, SUCH AS A MOB, WOULD BE EXAMPLES

b. What, if anything, should be done to protect elected officials and the public from those using harassment to stop civil engagement in the exercise of democratic processes?

FREE SPEECH IS A PROTECTED RIGHT. WHEN SOMEONE DISRUPTS A MEETING AND FAILS TO YIELD WHEN ASKED OR ACTS IN A THREATENING MANNER, THEN LAW ENFORCEMENT SHOULD BE CONTACTED.

5- Our county allows the use of mail-in ballots. Do you feel this method serves the public interest?

I LIKE THE CONVENIENCE OF MAIL-IN BALLOTS, BUT I BELIEVE THERE IS A GREATER POTENTIAL FOR MISUSE, FRAUD, OR COERCION.

6- Do you feel municipal government in your Delta County community in the recent past has been moving in the correct direction?

THE BOARD HAS BEEN ABLE TO GET WORK DONE. THERE COULD BE BETTER USE OF CRITICAL THINKING.

a. What additional steps would you promote to maximize serving the interests of your community in an efficient and cost-effective manner?

FINDING MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

7- What do you feel are three important issues and/or concerns facing the municipality in which you are seeking elected office and what solutions do you have in mind?

BETTER COMMUNICATION
BETTER LEADERSHIP
MORE VISIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Thanks for your help in encouraging public participation in our election process.

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