



What's more important: Trails or a new pool?

Corey

Thinks that is better asked of residents of Greenwood than him. City has a pool from 1958, when only 7,000 people lived here. Does not serve Greenwood now with population of 47,000. Trails are also considered a necessity by many communities. Greenwood has to be pedestrian-friendly.

Daniel

The current city pool is in need of repair or replacement. Continuing the expansion of trails is an important project too. Just as same as with growth, the city has to approach it in a manner in which mistakes won't be made. The city has to project the pros and cons of where trails are proposed to be built.

Hord

Both have benefits. Can't put priority on one or another. There are people who would much rather go on trails with bikes or roller blades and others who like to swim laps, do water aerobics and have place where kids can go that is a safe, clean environment.

Johnson

Both subjects are important. Trails will attract a lot of elderly people and a pool will attract middle age people and younger. Both are important to him. Thinks both should be in the same budget, if possible.

McLaughlin

Right now, trails because more people use those trails day in and day out than would use a pool. Pool is a good place for kids, but trails are better item to have in immediate sense. Number of people who use trails shocked him.

Pohlar

Believes the park and a new pool area are most important. Current pool is pretty small. Can't get people in and around. Families need a place to go. Getting pool started goes to top of list. Have trails started, and that will continue to grow as developers put in subdivisions. What the trails need is a way to get across U.S. 31. That has been discussed and proposed.

Tapp

Would have to educate himself on where city is with completion of trails as a citywide project. "If that is two years out, then the pool is more of a priority."



Public officials throughout Johnson County have been accused of using taxpayer-owned property for private work, giving it away, stealing from the coffers, running up high cell phone bills or staying overnight at conferences but never attending the sessions. How would you make sure that such exploitation or nepotism does not occur in the city?

Corey

Would go back to audit that city has to do. City council must be knowledgeable in all aspects of what's going on. City has been fortunate to not have people take advantage. Will happen in any sector. City has tools to find out how they did it or stop it from happening again.

Daniel

Would elect Mike Campbell mayor. That takes care of nepotism part. On exploitations, city council couldn't make sure it didn't happen. Can only make sure that he himself would not violate trust of the community. He is against nepotism. If voters change leadership of city, residents would see those changes within city government that would affect that issue.

Hord

Each council member needs to hold each council member accountable. If there are things that look like they're bad, they're probably bad. Should be able to go to fellow council member and say that is inappropriate. Accountability is part of team. Would expect another council member to come to him and say something is probably not best use because he will be on them.

Johnson

To keep from occurring, thinks someone has to be on top of all spending and checking all records to make sure they are up to date. If spending does occur and city keeps a close check on all records, can stop that immediately before it gets out of hand. May impose burden on city to hire someone to do that job if someone can't be found within city employment now.

McLaughlin

Don't want to micromanage; however, have to make sure department heads know exactly what is expected. Make sure to check if a check is needed, make sure rules are abundantly clear right out of gate and remind people from time to time what is right and wrong. Sometimes if don't hold people accountable, they will stray a little further than you wish they would have. Need to make people accountable and not just talk about it and that will stop it from starting.

Pohlar

Everyone has to be accountable. If those situations arise, would be questioning strongly why. Said they should be reprimanded accordingly. Does not approve of inappropriate use of funds or positions. Speaks to character. Has to be dealt with on a per-case basis, but it would be dealt with.

Tapp

During the budget process, the city council must make it be known to capable department heads that every expense report, reimbursement and personnel development request be scrutinized. "Again, it's a business. If you have the proper controls in place, and I have to think that's not changed since I was involved, I can't see those types of issues being issues." Audits are completed. "If a situation is uncovered, then it will be handled and addressed appropriately." City's human resources manager is very much attuned to those potential situations. Trusts department heads.



With the city growing and bringing in more and more people with professional and managerial backgrounds, as well as numerous nationalities and ethnicities, how would you promote government taking best advantage of the talents, ideas and willingness of residents wanting to participate in public policy matters?

Corey

Helps to be open and encourage people to attend city council meetings. Inform people about local government. If trash does not get picked up or street has a pothole, local government is most important. City government is what makes neighborhood best it can be or worst it can be. Important to inform people of what local government does and have them be passionate about city they live in and take pride in it.

Daniel

He would do as he does now, which is encourage people to get involved. "Don't wait until it's in your back yard. Know what is going on as best you can." Is up to government to make accessible the business of government so that people can get involved. Couldn't find city crime stats on the Internet. Couldn't find certain minutes of meetings. Said it is hard to encourage people to get involved if they can't open the door and get in.

Hord

Need to have forums for community on regular basis, maybe town hall meetings. There are a ton of great people in the community, in the city. Need to find these people and bring them in to offer great leadership to this city. Need to find the best way to find these people and utilize them. Everybody wants sense of community. Can know a lot of people and do it in honorable way, can be a major factor in how this city looks.

Johnson

No comment. Doesn't want that in the paper.

McLaughlin

A lot of people would like to be involved, but there is a communication gap. City doesn't have a clearinghouse to put people to work. Shuffle people from department to department. Need someone to listen to what people want to help with and make people aware of meetings and what they can come to. Information should be readily available.

Pohlar

Been working on revised comprehensive plan. City has volunteers on each of the four committees. As a member of plan commission, constantly tells people to get involved so they know what is going on, what will happen in their city and so they've got a voice. Voter turnout for this primary will be low because turnout in primaries is traditionally low. Issues and what city council discusses probably affect each resident. They can have a say in what happens here more than they do in any other election. On a local level, they can be involved with the different committees that can shape and mold the city. Hopes all residents of Greenwood, regardless of age or nationality, will get involved.

Tapp

"If those people show an interest, then we ought to welcome them with open arms." Knows the Hispanic population has great ideas. It seems to be an issue now that the city has to make sure to have employees who speak Spanish. But it is also important that they learn how to communicate with us by learning to speak English. Would partner with them and meet them halfway. City shouldn't expect people from other countries to learn English, and we shouldn't learn their language. Favors meeting halfway.



The city is in the process of revising the comprehensive plan that will guide growth in the coming years. What types of development should the city recruit, and what should be turned away? What is your vision for the city in 2015 and beyond?

Corey

Public input has been excellent. Comprehensive plan is one prong of strategic plan. Need to focus on developments that will make Greenwood best it can be. Saturated with high-density housing, need to focus more on lower density. Almost have a clean slate on the east side. We know the city is developing out to the east side, so it is imperative we be proactive in getting the best communities out there we can. His vision is he sees a community everyone is happy with that embraces the past, but looks forward to future. Sees city that is continuing to grow, facing new opportunities and challenges and is proactive in growth.

Daniel

City has examples of areas where homes aren't all exactly the same. Wants bigger lots, better construction and custom builders. Said companies that have developed tract housing have owners who do not live here. Decisions that are made now will have immense impact on quality of life in Greenwood.

Hord

Need to aggressively seek out ways to make Greenwood attractive, offer family-friendly values and amenities. Must make sure there are good tax incentives that will help city in long run. Vision is to continually grow, make sure city doesn't become stagnant and always have a vision of where want to go. In 2015 and beyond, we need to make sure our city hasn't fallen back or lost sight of what need to do to make this beautiful place to live. Need to be on cutting edge and ensure other people are looking at city and saying "How do we become Greenwood?" Need to have strong leadership and a vision.

Johnson

Manufacturing should be recruited. Housing developments should be turned away if they can't agree on city ordinance that homes can't be built on top of each other and they cannot build cheap homes in the city. Hopes in 2015 and beyond Greenwood would be a safe and prosperous place to live. Would be an attractive place to live and have the best education programs possible.

McLaughlin

Would like to see higher end housing, less of affordable housing. Have a lot of foreclosures in city and some are in affordable housing areas. Something needs to be addressed rather than just OK'ing everything that comes before the council. Would like to see east side of Greenwood developed, with good infrastructure and good traffic flow to the western limits. Would like to see more upscale housing on both sides. City has some land out west that would be a great area for upscale housing. Would like to see new park fully developed. Will be big boon for west side of town and great thing for kids.

Pohlar

City ought to continue to look at office buildings for medical professions along Emerson Avenue. Distribution centers should be east of Interstate 65. Life sciences potential is astronomical. Lots of things can be connected with the hospitals. Would like to see parkways. Sees an exit at Worthsville Road, sees Worthsville Road being a parkway from I-65 to at least State Road 135. Would work with county and Shelby County to get over to Interstate 74. Sees a parkway or major artery from Main Street out to Rocklane. To the south, new, diversified housing. Sees Old Towne as a center where people get together and have festivals and gatherings.

Tapp

City has to be open minded to all ideas and not leave any stone unturned. Is excited to hear about plans to expand the lot size for new homes. Also knows there is a need for affordable housing, and will do what city has to do to fulfill that need. There is also a yearning for custom-built houses, which have been forgotten about for a while. Wouldn't say absolutely not to any plans.



Did the city handle the proposed lingerie shop properly? Do you support the ordinance? Why? Were any missteps made in how that was handled by city government?

Corey

Closed loophole in city ordinance. Thinks most people don't want a sex shop next to a school or park or city property. People got caught up that it was focused on that one shop, but it was closing a loophole in the city's ordinance. Believe there should have been more focus on telling people it was closing a loophole and not singling out one business.

Daniel

City cannot blame the property owner. The property owner wants to rent that property out. If local government does nothing to improve the area, and the area deteriorates, then what kinds of businesses do they expect to come in there? If it is an upscale area, downtown won't be home to liquor stores or triple-X video stores. "Old Towne needs a partner in government." Never would have been an issue if the city had taken care of the area and been a partner. This isn't China or Russia, and it was ridiculous for the mayor to make statements about stepping on civil rights. Wants a mayor with a better vision for Old Towne.

Hord

Thinks it probably could have been handled a bit differently. Doesn't know lines of communication, knows what he read in the paper. Type of shop is not what he wants his kids to walk downtown and see. Supports businesses, but there are areas where that type of business is better suited. Ordinance was fine. Not knowing all steps, can't answer. Was lack of communication, communication lines broke down somewhere. Doesn't know where that was at, but first place look is communication.

Johnson

Supported ordinance. Ordinance he read about in paper says selling of lingerie is OK, but what was first proposed by the owner to sell was not proper in our city, such as the merchandise on the Web site. Thinks the city should have talked to her in person or should have requested her presence and had an open discussion.

McLaughlin

Doesn't know what city did. Had nothing to do with that case. Before that business came, ordinance was something he supported. Those ordinances are necessary for massage parlors, bookshops, lingerie stores. They all need to be regulated like other businesses in the city. Doesn't know of any missteps.

Pohlar

Could have been handled differently. All for free enterprise and for a person who wants to invest and open a business. "We don't want the sex-type shops or things of those nature, but no one complains about walking past Victoria's Secret in the mall, so why complain about going past a lingerie shop on Main Street?" Is not critical of decisions, but thinks city may have overreacted. Suggests doing more homework before going public.

Tapp

Freedom of enterprise is important. "I believe they handled that well. At first glance, appears that they looked at all aspects in that decision." Mayor may have overreacted in his first reactions. "We all do that from time to time. But when we do it, it is in the best spirit of community." It behooves city leaders to get all the facts before making a statement. But he certainly can do that, he is the mayor. "I may have thought it through a bit differently and spoken differently to it. Hindsight does say that he may have misspoken." Not privy to all those details.



What changes do you think need to be made in the police department?

Corey

Is mayor and police chief's job to make sure residents are safe and city council's job to make sure everyone has the tools to do their job. If people have a problem with how the police department is managed, they should see the mayor. If they're happy, they should see the mayor. If they're upset there is not enough radar guns, they should see the council.

Daniel

Need more police officers on duty and fewer supervisors. Morale is low. Public won't hear it, but they are worried about their jobs and won't speak out because of threat of losing their jobs. Should be paid accordingly, competitively with other officers in other departments. Police deserve it because they put their lives on the line. Need to improve morale. Successful is not a business where employees hate to go to work.

Hord

Need to look at police department and fire department. Would like to be able to at some point see what police department thinks. Doesn't know enough about city police department to make a decision on what needs to be done. Doesn't know if anything needs to be done.

Johnson

Doesn't know of any changes that need to be made. But if he is elected, if there are any changes that need to be made to improve the police department, he will back them 100 percent.

McLaughlin

Doesn't see any changes that need to be made. Have wonderful dedicated men and women. Doesn't have to worry about his back when working.

Pohlar

Can't answer. Doesn't know that there are any problems in the police department. Can't say what changes.

Tapp

Not aware of any changes that need to be made. Very proud of those people that serve. Have a very capable police chief and assistant chief. All those men and women do a fine job. Would be open to hear from chief if he feels there are changes to be made.

