

WHERE THEY STAND

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Greenwood City Council: At-large

Election day: Nov. 6 ■ Voting hours: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ■ Web Extra: Expanded answers and more questions at thejournalnet.com

On Nov. 6, voters in Greenwood will pick candidates to represent them as at-large members on the Greenwood City Council. Reporter Joseph S. Pete interviewed the candidates on a wide range of issues. Voters have a right to know where the candidates stand. Use these pages as a guide to help you make your voting decision.



AMBER MALCOLM, Democrat



BRENT COREY, Republican



TIM McLAUGHLIN, Republican

Pick two



What are the top three issues facing the city? How would you address them?

Malcolm

Taxes are the No. 1 issue. Believes there are a lot of issues with property taxes that need to be addressed. Should look at where the city is going, how to better distribute the taxes that are collected. Such high property taxes are uncalled for, and most residents are struggling. Should take a hard look at where the money really needs to be spent. With the expanding population, city needs to maintain a hometown feel. City is expanding rapidly, and it affects the people and their taxes. Wants to make sure that homes being built are of high quality. People aren't connecting with their government. Must make sure there's an open-door policy. Would try to engage the people and involve them in the city. Would like to see council members attend other meetings, such as Kiwanis or a women's group, to ask them what their issues are.

Corey

Make infrastructure a priority. Make improvements before development happens. Use the resources and tools allowed to help city vie economically in the state and in a global economy. Maximize quality of life. Make sure there's adequate police protection, parkways and recreation. In keeping with the city's long-term strategic plan, negate excess spending from budget. Maintain making sure Greenwood emphasizes amenities to meet the demands of a competitive metropolitan area. City needs to be proactive instead of reactive with infrastructure, specifically streets, to drive development.

McLaughlin

Traffic flow really needs to be improved in Greenwood. Residents are getting tired of sitting there wasting time in traffic. Something has to be done to lessen the burden of property taxes. Need less talk and more action on that. Less affordable housing and more upscale housing. Need to plan for growth out east. Have a clean slate out east. Can make that any way city wants it to go. Helps city as a whole when the gateway is done right. Council should deal with these issues in the near future, starting in the first part of the year. All options should be on the table. With property taxes, need some way to lessen the burden, probably holding the line on city spending.



Will you follow the letter and spirit of the Open Door Law? What if an attorney or other elected official makes a recommendation that goes against what you know the law is? What if someone requests to meet with the council in private?

Malcolm

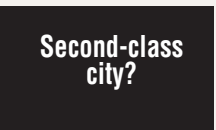
Yes, thinks that every person in government should. Utmost responsibility of public officials. Council member only has a job because of the people of Greenwood, and they deserve open government. If someone requested to meet in private, it would depend on what the meeting was about. With most subjects, what can't be said in front of the public probably shouldn't be said. Everyone has a right to know everything that goes in their government. The people's government, not the council member's government.

Corey

Absolutely. Breaking the law would put council member on the front page. Would never break the law.

McLaughlin

Absolutely. Would not meet anyone in private. Law's very clear on that.



Should Greenwood pursue second-class-city status? Why or why not?

Malcolm

Yes, will help establish tourism, help with more businesses, more jobs, more entertainment for the people to enjoy. City has the population, should pursue the next step. A larger city means bigger businesses. City just got the Cheesecake Factory, and more of that would benefit the people.

Corey

Favors consideration. City is rapidly growing with more than 47,000 residents. Many opportunities and challenges on the road to being a second-class city. Wants the city and media to inform residents about all that second-class status entails. Residents should be informed what that entails. Would mean better rating from the bond bank, comptroller, new at-large seat and two more council districts. First there should be discussion, an open dialogue so public is aware of what it means. Should weigh pros and cons. Favors starting a discussion, but that doesn't mean he favors it. An option the city needs to look at.

McLaughlin

Believes there is no direct benefit to the city monetarily. Sometime in the far future it may be beneficial. Not aware of any monetary benefit to the city.



What is a tax-increment financing district? At what point, if ever, should the city's east side TIF district be phased out and tax money from the district returned to the general fund, schools and the library?

Malcolm

It's community involvement to redevelop communities. A community improvement tool. Never thought about that before. When not necessary, should give money to schools and library.

Corey

A TIF zone is one of the tools the state gives cities for infrastructure improvement. Taxes after a baseline assessed value go to the TIF. Baseline still spread out among local entities of government, and increased valuation brought about by new infrastructure finances new infrastructure projects. Once area is developed, redevelopment commission can close out TIF if infrastructure projects completed.

McLaughlin

Certain areas designated where taxes generated go to infrastructure in that district, like in the east side corridor. City provides roads, sewers, lays foundation to build bigger and better. Money captured on east side will widen Graham Road into five lanes. There are a number of years a TIF can last. Firm believer that once the infrastructure meets what city wants it to be, money should go back into general operating fund of the city. Should stop collecting TIF money after that time.



Do you support the construction or purchase of a new city building? How would taxpayers benefit from a new city building?

Malcolm

No, knows it's small and old, but land costs money, so should see if the city can expand on what it has. Expanding on current building could cost less. As city expands, it will need a bigger government, so city should look at least expensive way possible, the facilities it has and has invested in. City needs a place it will run smoother and operate at a better level than it was before. Thinks it's not a necessity. Expanding on resources city already has will benefit the people more.

Corey

Yes. Beneficial to have local government under one roof. Having services under one roof beneficial to constituents and economic development of area. Instead of different office, one-stop shopping for constituents. Wouldn't throw money down the drain with rent.

McLaughlin

Wants to see more studies done on it. Question in everybody's life is if it's more beneficial to buy or continue to rent. Can be cheaper to buy and start making payments. Certainly something to be considered. Should figure out how much paying in rent and utilities and how much cheaper to the city to pay off in bonds. Personal opinion is that it would cost less for a building than it would to continue to rent. Easier to get things done under one roof. Easier for newcomers to the city to get city services without having to travel to different parts of the city.



Is it city government's job to do more than just provide roads and police and fire protection, but also to improve the quality of life so that the city can attract new residents and businesses? How does city government do this? What is your role?

Malcolm

Believes it's the city's role to attract new businesses and maintain the people's lifestyle. Certainly more than roads, just look at parks and recreation services. City has wonderful parks for different things like basketball and baseball. City's job is to make sure quality of life is maintained so the city can prosper. City is beautiful and prosperous place.

Corey

Yes. Green space and having adequate facilities would help bring businesses. Endress+Hauser is hidden jewel of Greenwood. But its executives don't live here unfortunately. City should focus on quality housing and quality of life. Quality of life a team sport. Greenwood needs to compete in global market, not just with Plainfield, Avon, Franklin, Zionsville and Beavercreek, Ohio. Need to encourage economic development to maximize quality of life.

McLaughlin

Believes it absolutely is. City provides snow removal, tree limb removal, other services. City is light years ahead on sidewalks and trails. Good roads can provide the quality of life that residents deserve. Active trail system, other quality-of-life features make more people want to move here. Huge issue that convinces people to move here or move their company here. Would budget money wisely, but make sure city has money for these projects.



Should the city hire any more employees? If so, for what department? Should any positions be cut?

Malcolm

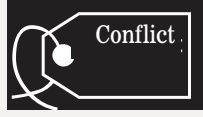
At this moment, would not be at liberty to say that. Would have to sit down and look at the budget and what's going on in all the departments. Until then, no firm grasp of what exactly needs to be done. Need to look at what's productive because city probably can't afford more employees than those currently on the payroll. Employees should handle more responsibility where they can without spending more tax money. At present, would make no cut. Before cutting people's jobs, need to see if other areas of government would be in need of them. They're doing a good job, and it's hard to recruit good people to work in government because it doesn't pay well.

Corey

That's a collaboration between the council and the executive branch. If executive branch determines city needs more employees for a department, council should fund that. Don't know of any that should be cut.

McLaughlin

Believes city is going to have to hire more employees as it grows. Almost a third of city's land annexed in the past 10 years. Need more police and fire protection. Like a family, you have to spend more as it grows. With family, you have to buy more food, swings, other things. City needs to spend more for parks department, street department, more to collect limbs and leaves. With more subdivisions, need to spend more on police and fire. Council should listen to department heads about need for staffing. Still must hold the line on spending, but city has growing pains.



What is a conflict of interest for a city council member? How would you avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts?

Malcolm

Thinks that would differ for each city council member. Maybe certain jobs that would want more things from the city council, where the council would be persuaded to give them their way. Some people are in groups that get more attention than other groups. Basically it depends on the individual what conflict of interest would be, whether giving a personal acquaintance more attention. Would avoid by making sure she is open and honest in what she does. Would not be affiliated with a certain group, and would give everybody an equal chance.

Corey

A conflict of interest is when one tries to use position to better himself. Would avoid by being transparent. Must tell people where you stand and why you stand there.

McLaughlin

Conflict of interest would be benefiting from my position monetarily. Basically, any monetary benefit or special privileges from position on city council would be a conflict of interest. First, need a pretty good moral compass to foresee conflicts that could happen. If a family member would bid on city project, for instance, would need to recuse yourself from the vote. Should know ahead of time. With a moral compass, should be OK.



Do you support the adoption of new taxes, such as a sales or income tax, and how much additional money should be generated? What city services should have increased spending? Would you raise any tax, including property, sales or income taxes?

Malcolm

At this moment, would not favor any increase of any taxes. Public is taxed to the limit. Should look at what is collected now and why that isn't cutting it. Should redistribute it in a way that meets all the needs of the community. Public is being taxed to death. Any more taxes would be completely wrong. Should look at what departments are not making the most of the money they're given. Should be spending no more than is being collected. Increase has been a big deal for everybody. Don't have a right to raise taxes on a whim, whenever council thinks the city needs more money. Should be spending tax money to full potential. Could look at changes like consolidation. A tax increase would be fair to no one.

Corey

Up to state. Would support a tax that reduced or eliminated property taxes, such as food and beverage tax. Have not seen any forecast of what that would bring in. During budget time, would work to come up with clean and concise budget that negates excess spending. Would not raise taxes if not needed.

McLaughlin

Don't know how much city would need but need to replace property taxes. Of course, cities, school, libraries take a larger percentage of property taxes than the city. Would like to see property taxes replaced with sales taxes. Greenwood is a mecca for retail. Maybe tax on going out to eat. Restaurants always full when you try to get a seat. Don't know set dollar amount needed to raise sales tax, but everyone should help pay for services. Services should not be on the backs of a few property owners, particularly those with fixed incomes. Someone who worked all his life and bought his house shouldn't have to worry about losing it. Shouldn't study it to death. Need to do something quickly.



The city's property tax rate went up this year. What are you going to do about property taxes?

Malcolm

As a city council member, would do as much as possible. Property assessed by assessor, affected by other departments. Would fight to make sure people can afford their property taxes so they don't have their homes foreclosed. It's wrong when people can't handle the increase. People should be able to afford to live and won't be able to survive another increase like this.

Corey

Property taxes are not an issue of municipal government, which is only part of the tax rate. Other taxing entities such as townships and libraries come to the table. Favors a clean, concise budget that negates excess spending.

McLaughlin

Try to keep spending in check. Incumbent upon the state not local government to fix the situation, but can hold the line on expense on the local front. Common sense dictates you need to be a good steward with tax dollars, or your constituents will let you know very quickly.



Which candidate for mayor do you support and why? Have you accepted campaign donations, given campaign donations or attended campaign events for either candidate?

Malcolm

Supports David Payne. Met him at several events. Feels he's open and honest and that it's time for a change. Charles Henderson has had a long time as mayor and could have done more with his time. Payne seems genuinely interested in people and what they need. He listens to what people want and is interested in making Greenwood a better place.

Corey

Would support the one the constituency elects.

McLaughlin

Tough question. Likes both of them. Has known both for 20-plus years, but is a loyal Republican. Must support the Republican candidate for mayor, so supports Henderson. Has not accepted or given donations or attended campaign events.



What are the attributes of leadership? How would you work to bring people along and build consensus on an issue? What about people who disagree with you?

Malcolm

To listen, first and foremost. Should take what's heard and actually act on it. Must set plans into action. Always will be people who disagree with you. Is a great believer in compromising. Definitely would work with people on both side of the aisle. Would work with Republicans. For government to work efficiently, there has to be compromise between the majority and minority. Can't accomplish anything without working together. Building a consensus takes talking and seeing both sides of an issue. Both sides should talk and incorporate into the final product an open exchange of ideas.

Corey

A leader makes a great organization. Sometimes you have to lead the horse to water to make that horse drink that water. Believes a leader can please 100 percent of the people zero percent of the time. Favors an open dialogue between constituents and stakeholders so they come to a consensus on what is needed. Everyone's entitled to their own opinion. Would tell others where he stands and why he came to decision.

McLaughlin

Several attributes. Have to be a great listener. No one has all the answers. Must engage and listen to ideas. Some ideas may not be good, but some may be excellent and you never know who might have them. Must make tough decisions, be willing to go against the grain if necessary. Disagreement is a wonderful thing, it promotes growth and harmony. Communication lacks in our city, and it's the No. 1 thing we need, whether Democrat, Republican or independent. Some think that withholding information means power, but residents unequivocally must have information. At the end of the day, we're working for the residents, and that's the most important part of leadership.



Is revitalization of downtown Greenwood a top priority? Why? Should taxpayer dollars be used? What do you propose be done?

Malcolm

A priority but not the top priority of this election. Revitalization has been a long time in the making. At this moment there are more pressing things going on. Downtown Greenwood being revitalized would be a great project. If people could come together and work on it, that would be wonderful. Downtown has a charming history all in all. Should move one step at a time. Is an issue but has been an issue talked about and talked about, and there are other issues that are more pressing like the property tax situation. Would like to try to bring businesses in without taxpayers' dollars. Maybe spend some dollars on streets and sidewalks, what the city has to pay for during the process. Should seek out people to open businesses, like maybe a dance studio. Should be a challenge as a community, and that would be best for everyone.

Corey

Absolutely. We are the city of pride and progress, the historical center of town is no longer the geographic center. Need to have that community connection. We have a true old town district. Carmel and other communities had to build one to replicate a historic downtown. We have to fully utilize what we have. Believes it will take partnership of organizations and individuals, the city and developers. Must come together as a community to get this done. A difficult process that will require compromises. City should play a leadership role. Can't invite others to invest if city doesn't show interest in revitalizing Old Towne. All the stakeholders should come together. Would see a community hub of pride. No one solution.

McLaughlin

Important but doesn't know if it should be a top priority. Has fond memories of when it was a shopping district with a pharmacy and grocery store. Didn't have good planning in the early days. Would like the heart of the downtown to be less congested and a vibrant place for all. Would be great if children could walk down the street to get across the road. Instead you fight traffic to get through. The Worthsville interchange should eliminate a majority of the traffic. With stores, it's an uphill battle for the owners. Some great restaurants downtown. Wants to lobby for Worthsville Road interchange because people will take it if they know they can whisk right through. Will take away large percentage of congestion, including at Madison Avenue and U.S. 31. Must work in unison with commissioners and county council to get this done.



Should the city's ordinances be changed to require more of developers in terms of building sidewalks and trails as land is developed? What do you propose?

Malcolm

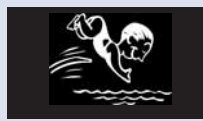
Yes, people need sidewalks to come out and walk through the community, especially in high-traffic areas. Colonial Meadows, for instance, has no sidewalks. Residents have to walk in the street through traffic. Should be done sooner rather than later, because it's hard to go back after it's already established. Should be a requirement at least to have a sidewalk. Important to have those things, to see that the residents can walk in their neighborhoods. It's dangerous for them to get out and walk, run, jog through the community. Kids would definitely benefit from it.

Corey

Currently in place but unfortunately not always. On Honey Creek Road a trail goes into a sidewalk into a trail. Should rely on master plan to illustrate where city will have trails and sidewalks, and stick to that. Should stick to it with all new subdivisions.

McLaughlin

No, that's been taken care of. City has been really good about getting whatever city wants, such as trails of 4 or 5 feet wide. Planning commission asks what it wants right out of the gate, and that's been addressed.



The park board has been planning development of a 72-acre \$17.4 million park, to include softball fields, trails, a dog park and a pool. Do you support the park's construction, including the proposed pool and the cost?

Malcolm

Supports the project but thinks it's a little costly. Whole project needs to be looked at by the community. Should look at what exactly is necessary to build now. Some things can be built later as more money comes in. Should see if residents are willing to pay for such a facility, and what they would deem a necessity for the moment.

Corey

In a holding pattern. State legislature will look at how we finance big projects, such as new community park. The current pool, which was built in 1958, lost \$36,000 last year and \$84,000 the previous year. Need a pool that would be self-sufficient and make money. State legislature will look at bonding and the whole A to Z of funding local government. Uncertain how city would fund it, and must wait until city knows what tools are available.

McLaughlin

Yes, but thinks it can be done for less than \$17 million. Should have studies and several meetings. Don't need the maximum, everything with all the bells and whistles. Employees from the streets and parks department can do some work, rather than pay top dollar for everything like shelter houses. City needs a pool. The pool city has costs more than it makes from it. Some initial cost, but will cost us more to keep the old pool. Hopes it can be done without raising the city's tax rate. At end of the day, it's a quality of life issue. People should have a pool, someplace to go when it's hot.



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

Malcolm

Thinks a new pool is needed. Have trails all over, off Fry Road and Main Street. Community might not need the biggest, grandest pool that money can buy. The current pool has served the city 50-plus years. Really did serve the needs, has been great. Pool is needed, but a greater increase in taxes wouldn't be fair to the community. New pool should be built, but the size and spending can be looked at.

Corey

Both, they co-exist. Should stick to improving quality of life. Both rely on different funding sources, one from developers, grants and the board of public works and the other from capital expenditure.

McLaughlin

Absolutely a pool. Sees many people using trails in mornings and afternoons, at all different hours. Thinks city needs a new pool with so many trails used so frequently.



The city is in the process of revising its comprehensive plan, which 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 2020 and beyond?

Malcolm

City should recruit businesses that are family- and community-friendly. Continue to bring things like Bouncer Town, a family place to take children. Should bring dance facilities and things like that, certainly a diversification of businesses but not the things that bring a community down, like a strip club. Residentially, the city needs more affordable housing for families. The average Greenwood family should be able to afford a home. People will set roots down in this community. Developments like those in Carmel are wonderful, but most people can't afford that. Should promote families to stay in Greenwood. Should make sure the city grows and expands in population. Should see it grow and expand with parks and more family-oriented things where neighbors can go.

Corey

With residential, city is flooded with high-density housing. Need higher-end, low-density executive-type houses, executives living in the city. Need more diverse housing market; city is saturated with the low-end. With industrial, city needs high-caliber businesses. Can do better than warehouses. High-end technology, more businesses of that nature. Don't have a problem attracting commercial. Would like professional life-sciences corridor along County Line Road. Wants to see the city live up to its motto and see residents taking pride in their city. Need smart, responsible growth and progress.

McLaughlin

Favors a two-pronged approach of more upscale housing. City has enough of warehousing and truck docks. Wonderful if more medical profession jobs come to County Line Road and Emerson Avenue. City needs more great-paying jobs, not just good-paying jobs. Thinks city should control the growth so it has a good mix of things. In future, city should continue to have great roads, few foreclosures and managed growth. Eastern gateway to the city should have large amount of growth managed in such a way that allows for low taxes and good services.



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

Malcolm

Thinks they're doing a good job. Have a safe community, a safe place to be. Should continue to strive because there's always a way to cut crime. Should continue to do that, maintain the safe feeling of the community.

Corey

City council not responsible for daily operations, which is job of executive branch. Ask candidates for mayor about that question. City council funds the department but does not run it.

McLaughlin

As the city gets bigger, the department needs to grow. Wonderful men and women in the department, but more are needed as city undergoes growing pains.



Was the economic incentive for Cabela's too generous? Why or why not? What if it doesn't turn out to be the destination the company claims? How could the city have gotten a better deal?

Malcolm

Yes, thinks it's generous. Never asked if whole community would benefit from the store being here. Should have seen if more businesses could have come as well and benefit from great incentive. Definitely need to look at development process better. Should have asked the people what they wanted first or if they would use the facility. Never asked if it was best business to entice to come here. Whole community should stand by the incentive.

Corey

No, believes in use of incentive tools in this day and age of the global marketplace. Should use tools we have to attract businesses we want. That area sat as a cornfield too long. Cabela's will generate more interest for corridor. Would have to ask people making the decisions if that was the best deal. Beneficial for both the city and corporation when giving out tax incentives.

McLaughlin

From what he knows, the bonds are guaranteed, and Cabela's eventually will become the No. 2 taxpayer in Greenwood after Simon Property Group. City not liable for anything when it comes to the bond. Premature to take the doomsday or naysayer position. Good to have huge corporation coming to Greenwood. Came here for a reason, and they have a good track record. Might exceed what they say they'll do but won't go belly-up. Wasn't privy to any of the negotiations, has no idea whether city could have gotten a better deal.



What would you do if you knew there was corruption or unprofessional behavior among city officials or employees? How would you address it?

Malcolm

Would report it as soon as possible, immediately. No place for that in city government. Public should know immediately. Depending on who it was, would report to immediate superior so it could be addressed or issues could be prevented in the future.

Corey

Would use the executive branch or proper channels to solve the problem. For corruption taking place in government would turn over to authorities. Often in eyes of beholder. For example, you'd need to talk to the executive branch if a department head went ballistic at a city council meeting.

McLaughlin

Would nip it in the bud right away and contact the police department. Police department has handled things like that before. Under no circumstance should that go on. Everyone should know there are consequences for their actions, and they can be prosecuted.



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?

Malcolm

City should take advantage of all suggestions. People of all different skill levels and jobs make the community what it is. Should take advantage of everyone, regardless of background. Every person should have a say in their community. More people and backgrounds make the city a more exciting place to live. City is expanding and growing, and people can learn so much from different perspectives and different points of view. Makes it a more exciting place, makes the city come to life.

Corey

The more engaged people are in government in general, the better government is. Wishes he knew how to get more people involved. Should keep people informed the best the city can. Some tools include the city Web site, other media sources to inform residents who want to serve.

McLaughlin

Likes the old-school method. Used to be Welcome Wagon where businesses brought gifts and gift certificates to new residents. City should use building permits, sewer service applications to identify new residents, send them information about the government to encourage them to become involved, join boards, etc. Engage them and see if they want to serve on boards for the parks department or trails, or the police merit commission. Thinks this information should be available to new residents. The more people move to the city, the more people get involved in local politics, the more people have ideas, the better it will get.



When is it appropriate to borrow money?

Malcolm

Believes city should stay away from borrowing money. Puts people in debt and has to come from somewhere, from tax money. Only in dire situations should the city borrow money. Should be the last resort. City should take a look at money that's already available. Only borrow if a return can be collected from it. If the city can profit and grow and prosper even more, then it can be done.

Corey

For capital projects. An average person cannot pay cash for a house and must go through a mortgage. Mostly based on the project's dollar amount.

McLaughlin

City government is like a family. Times when you can't afford a house with the money you have socked away. Have to borrow money to pay off the house. Prudent to use the money saved to make money by investing, in savings CDs for instance. That's free money, and can use the interest on money invested to pay back the money borrowed. Periodically need to borrow for fire trucks and other items. Part of the cost of doing business sometimes.



How should the city pay for street repairs?

Malcolm

Believes they need to be paid for by the taxpayers utilizing money that's being collected, not by raising taxes more. Should reassess and redistribute where the city's tax dollars go, may have to make cuts in some departments, but that would be necessary because city can't afford to keep this up.

Corey

Depends what kind of repairs, whether neighborhood streets or major thoroughfares. Have to pay for major arteries through the city through bonds. Regular maintenance, the average milling project probably doesn't need bonding. Must be judged on case-by-case basis. Depends on how serious the problem is, whether city needs to rebuild a section of street or a whole neighborhood. Could be a possibility for a neighborhood, but would rather save levy power for major projects.

McLaughlin

Depends on the cost. At minimum, needs to be a large amount of money. End of the day, saving makes the city money, but city departments can save money by doing some of these things, whether street maintenance or building a gazebo. Should run the city like a business, as cost-effectively as possible.



What type of relationship should a city council member have with the mayor?

Malcolm

Thinks the city council should be close with the mayor, have a lot of meetings and discussion. City council and mayor should have an open relationship, converse often. Need to be on the same level to work together for the people of Greenwood, as the city continues to grow and prosper. Should be some check and balances. Mayor shouldn't be able to do whatever he wants.

Corey

Individually, should be colleagues that represent the constituents that elected them. As a group, should be respect and avenues or constructive communication so public's will can be done.

McLaughlin

Professional but personal. Should all get along. The whole point is that all are working for the same cause. Separate entities but same agenda, same goal of serving the residents of Greenwood. Don't have to agree in every respect but should respect each other and have a desirable work environment.



What waste is in the city budget? How would you cut the budget?

Malcolm

City needs to look at what it's most important obligations are. Start with that funding and maybe can find something lower on the list of priorities to be cut. Have read the budget, but need to be on the council to be able to talk to the different departments and go in and see their workings. What's at the bottom of list of priorities should be cut.

Corey

Not aware of any gaping holes draining tax dollars in budget now. If elected, would make sure city is utilizing economies of scale between departments. For example, one department might order T-shirts through one company and another department through another. Many items should be bought in higher quantities with an economy of scale. More communication should go on to ensure city is using its money as best it can. No cuts needed in current budget. City employees need a raise.

McLaughlin

No waste that he knows of. Not sure cuts can be made, but council can manage the budget. As a family grows, so do the expenses. The city will astronomically grow, and growing pains come with that. Can't make cuts, just manage, as it grows because there's a cost to that growth.