

Greater Spokane Valley Chamber

Question #1

My name is Tom Towey and I am running for position #3. And this is what I would bring to the Council. I have lived in the Spokane Valley all my life. I have been involved in our business community most of my adult life. I was in management with Rosauers and ran 4 of their stores, three in the Spokane Valley. I understand business and the critical roll our Council has in making sure we not only attract new business but also work with our existing business community so they can prosper.

I was privileged to be Mayor from 2010 through 2013. I understand the roll Council plays and the impact their decisions have on our citizens. I understand City Hall and work well with Council and staff to address the concerns and needs of our community.

Question #2

I have lived in the Spokane Valley all my life. I find that “ valley people” have a unique attitude when it comes to preserving our way of life. I liken it to the pioneer spirit, fiercely independent, but always ready and willing to help their neighbor in time of need. I hope we never lose that spirit.

Question #3

Working with others to make our community a great place to live and raise a family and where business can grow and prosper.

Question #4

Economical development is a vital part of our future. As Mayor I initiated the welcome letter for all new businesses. Not only must we encourage and welcome new business, but working with our economical partners, we must support our existing businesses and work with them to achieve their full potential.

Question #5

Having been an elected official I have worked with and observed our Chamber as it helped businesses and our City grow and prosper in a positive way. I think Big 5 takes those efforts to another level. I am encouraged by the thought and vision the Chamber has adopted in the Big 5. Working together we can achieve a positive future for our community.

Question #6

There are three basic challenges we are faced with.

#1. Sustainability

We must continue to move forward with responsible budgets, more jobs, and maintain a pay-as-you-go, lower cost contract City for the benefit of our citizens.

#2. Public Safety

Public Safety must remain one of our top priorities.

#3 Infrastructure

Infrastructure is not only a plus for our citizens but also attracts new business and economical development. A good street preservation program not only gives us safe streets but saves our taxpayer thousands of dollars in the future.

Question #7

I think our founding fathers had it right. Government whether federal, state, or local, should be a facilitator and resource for the people not a regulator of the people. We need to serve the people not the other way around. And most important we need to encourage and support citizens involvement in everything we do.

Question#8

When I became Mayor in 2010, relationships and collaboration between Government agencies were very strained. My top priority was to encourage all agencies to recognize that we all need to be regional partners to solve regional issues. Open communication is the key to forming a solid format that benefits all government agencies. We must remember when one agency makes a decision it affects all of us. We can and must work together if we are to have a positive impact on our future.

Tom Towey