

## **Carl Tatman – Current City Council President**

Below are the answers to questions asked by the Lancaster Eagle Gazette.

### **Key Issue #1**

The budget for the city is a key issue for the next year and several years in the future. As a council it is our responsibility to approve the budget as prepared by the mayor. It is also council's responsibility to make changes as they become necessary during the year. Working with the mayor, finance committee, all council members, the auditor and all department heads assists in providing a workable budget for the city.

All other issues flow from the budget process. From money for street paving, safety forces, and other general fund departments; a good solid budget allows for the city to provide the services that are needed to our residents.

City government must take an active approach to the budget not only for next year but the next several years. All council members must be willing to work hard and plan for the future of Lancaster.

### **Key Issue #2**

Appointing solid committees with knowledge and experience to work on the issues of each committee is an important issue for Lancaster's Council President. Politics must be left out of appointments. Looking at council members' strengths and experience is key to placing the right members on a committee. Also finding out what committees a member wishing to serve on is important. Placing someone on a committee where they do not wish to be is not in the best interest of the City or the residents.

When used properly Council committees help at all levels of the city being able to provide services for its residents. From helping with budget issues (moving money around between different accounts), to bringing in different legislation requests, departments work with council committees on several different levels. Council Presidents must make sure they put together committees that can work together and get the job done.

### **Issue #3**

The last key issues for an effective council president are 2 parts: 1. Running organized and effective meetings. 2. Allowing for open communications from not only council members and the city side but also from the residents and tax payers.

During council meetings maintaining the order of business and how effective the meeting is falls to the Council President. This works hand in hand with communications. Allowing for the free discussion of issues and making sure that everyone has the opportunity to be heard is important.

Knowing the role of council president and knowing what duties that position involves is important. As the only candidate with a proven track record of service as Council President, I know how important this issue can be to running a successful meeting and council.

### **Why are you running for this office?**

I have always had a strong sense of public service and duty to my community. From being a police officer and D.A.R.E. officer to having been a substitute teacher in Lancaster City Schools I have always given back to my community.

The Council President position is a position I was first appointed to, to replace Steve Davis. This position requires knowledge, dedication and experience. I bring those qualifications to the position.

Council leadership is an important role in city government. I know Lancaster is a great city and that with hard work and dedication we can make it even greater. I want to keep moving Lancaster forward and to work hard on all issues, especially those that affect your family and our community.

### **What are your best qualifications?**

My best qualifications would have to be my experience on council and my dedication to move Lancaster forward.

I have served as Council President for the last 3 1/2 years. I have the knowledge and experience to complete the job of council president. I am also the only candidate with a proven track record of services as Council President. I also have served as a councilman at-large and a ward councilman and have the experience from being a member of council.

I am a retired Police officer from the city of Lancaster and bring that knowledge with me to the council presidency. From that time I gained a unique look and invaluable knowledge of the city and city government.

I am an active public servant, and I know the issues that affect the families and our community. I have always been involved in our community, and have held many different leadership roles in the different civic and community organizations that I have or currently belong to. The best way to know about what is going on in your community is to be involved.

### **What is your No. 1 Priority if elected?**

My number one priority if re-elected as Council President would be to follow through with the three issues that I listed. Budget, Committee assignments, and running council meetings in an organized and affective manner while maintaining the best communication with council, the public and city departments / administration.

By making sure council role in city governments works as it should, we can move Lancaster forward and keep Lancaster as a great place to live and work. To accomplish this we must stay on top of the budget and planning, maintain and improve the services we provide to our residents, and work on creating job opportunities.

**If you are an incumbent what are your accomplishments in office?**

There are several important items that have been accomplished while I have been Council President. Below is what I believe are the three most important:

1. A restructuring of Council committees. This allows for the proper department to be represented within one committee. By restructuring the committees we now have department heads only having to deal with one committee instead of 2 or more.
2. Council members now have city email addresses, which are listed on the city website. This allows for public input and contact with members of council.
3. Working with the mayor and council on the budget to maintain the levels of services to our residents while still having a balanced budget.

**Why are you the best candidate?**

I am the only candidate for council president with the **dedication** and **experience** to move Lancaster forward. I am the only candidate for council president with a **proven track record** of services as Council President. I am involved in our community and stay active as a public servant; I **know the issues** that affect your family and our community. I know that I am a public servant and what trust and duty that requires and never will offer anything less.