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Roy City Council

By *Standard-Examiner* staff
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We asked:

1. Why are you running for office?
2. What are the biggest issues facing your city, and what will you do to handle them?
3. How would you address the blighted area on 1900 West?

Candidate Trent Wilkins asked not to participate in this questionnaire.

Marge Becraft

Age: 65

Occupation: Retired school teacher

Qualifications: Having served on Roy City Council for three terms, I have participated in implementing new programs for the city and the enjoyment of its residents.

1. Being on Roy City Council has been very rewarding. I have chaired the annual service project for our youth in Roy City. They have responded tremendously over the past nine years in various projects throughout the city. Their response helps them to feel ownership in our community. Serving on the Christmas Festivities committee has brought great joy during the Christmas season. We have been able to showcase the elementary and junior high choirs along with the beautiful light displays put up by our public works department. I enjoy working with the citizens and helping with their concerns throughout the city. I will continue to work for a clean and safe environment for Roy City.

2. Having fought for a good healthy environment, I would like to continue to implement the programs and services to help our citizens. In our stressful economy, we have been able to maintain the services and keep all our employees without raising taxes. Because of the economy, funds from the state are not what we would like, but we will continue to work to get the monies to update infrastructure within our city. We have been very lucky to have private funds to help a build the Hope Community Center for all of Roy. It will house the Seniors Center and the Boys and Girls Club as well as facilities for cultural and sports events for all the citizens.

3. Over the past few years we have seen good changes taking place on 1900 West. We currently have some businesses ready to occupy several of the properties as soon as banks give them the go ahead. We continue to work with businesses to take pride in Roy

and keep their properties in a manner that will bring customers to their doors.

William Bleicher

Age: 32

Occupation: Business owner/contractor

Qualifications: I want to facilitate making Roy great for families and business. I am eager to put my abilities to work for the citizens of Roy.

1. I am running for city council to serve my community. I like many others have talents and abilities that are valuable to me and my fellow man. Our community needs people to step forward and lead the way. I understand that most of what affects us happens at a local level. I have the privilege and duty to affect things at that local level, and would like to put my talents and abilities to work for the citizens of Roy. At an early age I learned about leadership and service through Scouting, high school clubs, working with adult disabled, and at work as a trainer or supervisor. I have owned and operated my own business for five years.

2. I think the biggest issues facing our great city are growth and management of that growth. I believe we will need to plan carefully so that our tax payers will get the greatest value for their dollars. We have to create a climate where both businesses and families look at Roy with a long term commitment. If we do this we won't have empty store fronts or a high number of vacant or run down properties.

3. As far as the blighted area on 1900 West, I think we need to find incentives for property owners to fill commercial space. In addition we will need incentives for would be businesses to occupy those spaces and stay in them. Roy sends out a newsletter with its utility bills; why not use that to spotlight businesses that move into these areas? Lastly, work to encourage businesses to come that our residents want to patronize.

Michael L. Stokes

Age: 35

Occupation: Registered nurse, Intermountain Healthcare

Qualifications: Current city councilman 2006-present, planning commission member 2004-06

1. We've had great success in improving our aging water system, planning for future water needs, building a new community center for our seniors and the Boys and Girls Club, as well as working together to beautify and improve the city as a great place for families to live and work, all while keeping a balanced budget, avoiding tax increases, and partnering with public and private groups to accomplish this. I would like to continue forward in these efforts over the next few years as we work to implement the short and long term goals that have been set in these areas.

2. There is still much work to do in the area of addressing how to continue to keep a balanced budget in these hard economic times, improve our business districts throughout the city, continue to replace aging infrastructure, and work to revitalize some of the older residential areas of the city. Goals have been set in these and other areas in order to address the most pertinent issues. Quite simply, I would work to ensure that we hold the steady course in meeting these goals.

3. As is well known, we are in the midst of hard economic times which have stalled much of the activity that was starting to occur along this corridor. There is much, however, that can be done to facilitate and encourage these owners in a way that creates an environment suitable for redevelopment and growth. Recently, I have been meeting with many of these property owners and their representatives to share our concerns and work with them on solutions for revitalizing this area. Due to these meetings, as well as the active communication that's occurring, we're well-poised as a city to take part in facilitating these renewed activities as the economy recovers.

Lynn R. Smith

Age: 55

Occupation: Sales

Qualifications: I love Roy! I served with Lakeview Community Council, PTA, and as a Riverdale Lion's Club past president. I am dedicated, dependable and I care.

1. One of the biggest parts of my life is service. I've always felt the need to give back when possible. As some of you know I spent many years on the Ogden City Police Reserves and as past president of the Riverdale Lion's Club. My family has grown up in Roy, gone to school and church in Roy and I believe that Roy is a wonderful place to live. I chose to run for city council because I feel I can make a difference. I have a new and fresh perspective. I hope to bring positive changes to our beautiful city. I am running as your fellow citizen, not as a politician.

2. I believe the biggest issue is bringing new business to Roy. Small business creates jobs and jobs keep families in Roy. My mother, Marie, owned and operated the Dresswell Cleaners for 30 years. She was an anchor to the small business community and taught me to love the self-employed and small business owner.

Roy has seen huge growth in the past few years which brings traffic issues, so I will keep it high on my list to help move people safely around our city. Speaking of safety, our police department does a wonderful job on keeping crime in check and I will give all my support to help them continue in this quest.

3. We have a great city manager, Chris Davis, who invites new businesses into Roy. I believe the council needs to support him more in influencing businesses to locate in Roy and I will encourage citizens to shop in Roy so those businesses can thrive and remain here. I would certainly entertain looking into more beautification programs and other ways to make our city shine. I encourage your input. My e-mail is LynnRSmith@comcast.net.