



Kirk deViere

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Office Sought - Fayetteville City Council, District 2

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What endorsements have you received for your current candidacy?

None.

If offered, would you accept contributions from political action committees affiliated with the real estate industry? (RPAC, BuildPAC etc.)

Yes.

With crime being the #1 City Council priority, what solutions would you bring to the table and how would you fund them?

There is no silver bullet to reducing crime. It will take a community effort to reduce all areas of crime. Decreasing our crime rate, making our city a more peaceful one starts with each of us - person to person, neighbor to neighbor, street by street, and neighborhood by neighborhood. Presence on our streets, in our neighborhoods is a key to our success as it leads to deterrence. There are social and economic factors that influence the crime rates. We need to understand the causes of the spike in violent crimes as well as the trends so the city council can make data driven decisions in the resourcing of our police department and other agencies that directly impact crime rates. We also need to continue involving the neighborhoods through the community watch program so that they take ownership of their streets and work with the police officers to make them more peaceful. Jobs are another key factor. Statistics show that when cities have low unemployment that the crime rate is lower. I believe the two are interrelated. We also need jobs for our youth – both vocational jobs like mechanics or carpenters as well jobs in emerging technology areas like cyber security. We must work with the Workforce Development Commission and the business and government sectors to create internships for students. The city budget is program based and this method provides us the insight into the true cost of programs so that we can determine how to fund priorities that will help us create a more peaceful city. I will use this budgeting tool to determine the best way to fund any requirements.

What ideas do you have to make it easier to open and maintain a new business in Fayetteville?

As a small business owner I fully understand the challenges facing entrepreneurs when running a business. One of the first things we could do is make the licensing process easier and with a more common sense approach. There should be a simple checklist based on industry sector that business owners can follow when starting a business in Fayetteville. The city needs to use tools like social media and T.V. (Fay TV 7) to communicate with business owners about all the resources across the city provided for business owners to help them grow their business. Another key point in maintaining business is to increase the amount of local participation in contracts from city departments. These are contracts that could be services locally and would provide growth for small businesses.

What are your solutions for homelessness?

We must revisit the outdated “10-Year Plan to End Homelessness”. We must create a viable plan that is aggressive but yet realistic and have short immediate goals as well as long-term goals. This plan must address permanent housing as statistics show a greater success when permanent housing is provided first followed by the services needed by the individual. We must develop benchmarks in each homeless segment - men, woman, families, and veterans - so we can address the different needs of each population. The city must allocate resources to this plan and collaborate with organizations already providing the types of services needed so there is not a duplication of effort. The City Council needs to review ordinances on the placement of shelters based on the overall growth plan for the city. Additionally we need to collaborate with other municipalities in the county as well as the county to ensure there is a county wide integrated plan.



Would you like the City of Fayetteville's seal changed?

The Human Relations Commission is currently surveying citizens about the City's seal. This community conversation is important and I would defer any decision until their report.

What new ideas/concepts can you bring to the office you are seeking?

I don't think it is a single new idea or concept or even a list of programs that I can bring to city council but more of a fundamental belief and understanding that people are our greatest asset in Fayetteville and that we become stronger if we work together. I will also bring a business minded approach to the governing of our City. Together we can create solutions that will help make it easier to do business in Fayetteville, increase our quality of life, and make our neighborhoods and businesses more peaceful. We can create a Fayetteville where families want to raise their children and grandchildren, where homebuyers are eager to purchase their homes, where young professionals strive to move and start their own businesses and where people choose to retire.