

Open Government: I think city government is already open. Anyone can attend Council and other city meetings or watch it on TV or access the minutes on line. The accountability is with and through your elected officials (Mayor & Councilpersons). I will be very accessible to the citizens as I was when I served on the Council from 2001 through 2005. I returned all phone calls and answered every email.

Growth: I do not have information on how other cities manage growth. Growth in Rapid City has always been a complex issue because of the topography of our area. As Rapid City continues to grow I feel it is important to have infrastructure (streets & utilities) pushed ahead of the growth and then as developers put in commercial and residential projects they reimburse the city for the infrastructure.

City-County Cooperation: It all comes down to two way communications between the two bodies. I think the leadership of these two bodies is already meeting but maybe a joint session between all the Commissioners and Councilpersons to discuss issues common to both entities should be held.

Recycling: Currently the city recycling program is one of the best in this region. There are still areas in our city that private sanitation companies pickup trash. These companies need to push for recycling. Also businesses in Rapid City have their trash hauled by these private companies and should also be encouraged to push for recycling bins. I would not support a tax on plastic bags, instead retail stores should be encouraged to move away from plastic and promote reusable tote bags.

Energy: When I was on the Council I served as the chairman for the Energy Committee and we brought forward an Energy Policy which was passed by the full council. This policy is still in place today, however, I would push to have it reviewed and updated if necessary.

Water: The new city ordinance governing septic systems is a big step in controlling pollution of our water. It is very important that the county pass similar legislation. Also the city has in place the Storm Water Quality committee which will address the EPA requirements on controlling drainage. Government needs to be educating the citizens of Rapid City of what NOT to dump into our gutters and drainage areas.

Floodplain: I think only construction that is allowed under the restrictions currently in place for the city's 500 year flood plain be approved. I currently serve on the Civic Center Board and we will be reviewing recommendations brought forward by the Parking Committee. For most events, however, there is currently adequate parking within a 2 block area of the Civic Center.

Ducks: The waterfowl issue at the city parks continues to grow as the waterfowl population grows. I would want to hear from the experts (GF&P) on how to control the growth and whether or not the feeding of these birds is causing this growth. If the experts say we need to reduce the numbers than let's come up with solutions on how to do it. If public feeding of the waterfowl is a cause of overpopulation than educate the public on why we need to stop the feeding.

Non-discrimination: I would continue to whole heartily support the Human Relations Committee. I would get actively involved in the ongoing dialogue between the different ethnic groups in Rapid City.

Education: On my previous term on the Council we worked with the schools to build 2 community centers at West and South Middle Schools with 2012 funding. I would continue to promote communications between the council and school board.

Health: I would not support a city tax on beverages containing sugar. I would not know where to begin to come up with a system to oversee this and the cost to the taxpayers would be very high.

Arts: Yes, the city is through funding different projects such as the expansion of the Dahl and funding for the Performing Arts. While serving on the council I was the liaison to the Arts Council and was always a promoter of the arts in Rapid City. This support would continue.

Streets: No, I am not satisfied with the condition of many of our streets. I think more 2012 funds should be allocated to street repair and replacement, including infrastructure under the streets.

Transportation: Over the last few years the city has done a good job of expanding the Rapid Transit System through the addition of more routes. As funding is available, mainly through the federal government, we should continue to add and revise routes. The city should try and add bike and

pedestrian paths as they rebuild main arteries through out the city. A good example of this is the newly rebuild Kansas City Street.

Taxation: Yes I support the use of TIFs in most cases. I think every TIF has to be scrutinized and only approved if it meets all the criteria dictated by state law. No, I would not support removing the sales tax on food. Rapid City receives most of its operating dollars from sales tax and I cannot think of anyway we could replace this revenue.

Wages: Business is dictated by state law on the minimum wages to be paid employees. I would always be an advocate for businesses moving to Rapid City that pay a decent wage to employees.

Accomplishments: (Served on City Council 2001-2005) I, along with the council, put in place an energy policy, new rules of order and bylaws, invited high school students to sit in on council meetings, and used 2012 funding to build new projects through out Rapid City.

One final thought – I believe many of our elected officials at all levels of government have forgotten that they were elected to be “Public Servants”. They soon forget who pays their salaries.