

Answers given by Cecil Tuley to the ten questions posed by "Inside 84045". I am a candidate for city council, and currently serving in a temporary replacement role on the council.

1- What are the top 3 challenges you feel Saratoga Springs currently faces?

1. The development of a useful way to get accurate and timely information about the City's legislative actions, policy changes, and strategies out to the public on a regular basis so that residents can make plans to be engaged in the processes that affect their lives more easily.
2. Beginning to develop an updated & comprehensive general (master) plan for development of the city's land areas so that we will be prepared to reap significant financial and aesthetic benefits in the near and distant future.
3. Seeking business development opportunities and coordinating locations (through zoning actions) likely to be most appropriate for such development.

2- If elected, how are you going to address these 3 top challenges?

Re:1. I believe this can be best accomplished through changes in the way we decide to hear the matters that come before the council. At this time even we, the council, frequently get notice of a public hearing or matter that is likely to be of widespread interest on the Friday just before the next council meeting. Residents who are diligent about being on the city website e-mail list will get their notices at the same time we do, giving very little time to study the matter and organize an interest group effectively. While there are significant reasons to keep most of the city business on a fairly fast track, there are items that should have at least a week's longer notification for the public. I plan to study the issue more closely and make recommendations to the council for changes in policy that would give residents more lead-time to become a part of our process.

Re:2. The planning commission did an admirable job a few years ago putting together a general plan for the community. But, like any general plan, it needs to be updated periodically. I think now is that time. We have a lull in development activity, and there should be a little more time available for the planning commission and the city council, along with interested residents to get going on an update. I will propose or support such an action in city council deliberations soon.

Re:3. I intend to be involved in researching potential development, advertising our city's beneficial characteristics for business and meeting with known developers to encourage their investment in our city.

3- What impact do you think that Commercial Development has on the City, and how are you going to increase/decrease this impact?

I presently view Saratoga Springs as a "bedroom community" rather than a complete and full functioning city. Our primary wage earners, whether male or female, mostly work outside of the community. As is typical in such communities, the major tax burden for the operation of the city and the development of facilities such as libraries, recreation facilities, roads, and other desired infrastructure must be born by those who live in the community. That almost always means, that if any of the desired infrastructure is to be developed in a bedroom community, higher local taxes must be assessed on the residents. That is an unpleasant necessity.

Commercial development allows for a significant shift in the financial resources available to a city government. It shifts from residents who would otherwise see larger and larger property taxes as times pass, to businesses. Business also provides more local employment, saving additional monies for residents who are able to work in their community.

Now, businesses may feel that such a shift is not exactly fair, but it is the dominant method of generating operational funds for communities all over the USA. Actually, those costs are usually

passed on to the residents, but the pain of paying taxes for the things your community needs is far less when you also get a product or service as you are paying those taxes (vicariously). Certain very desirable businesses also draw monies from outside the community that benefit the community as well. Some of that money comes from selling products or services to outside customers and some of comes from bringing outside visitors into the community where they buy services or products used locally (tourism, specialty destination sites, etc.).

So, in the big picture, business development means bigger piggy banks and less personal taxes for local citizens. And, everyone wins, even the businesses that are the middlemen in the revenue generation and collection process. I will work actively to increase the presence of **quality** business entities in our community.

4- Without comparing yourself to the other candidates, what makes you qualified for the position you are running for City Council?

While age is not necessarily a natural qualifier for a council position, it does contribute to the likelihood that the individual will have had significant learning and observation experiences across a broad spectrum and long time period. Such experience would contribute to a sound understanding of the issues that arise in city government. At age 64, I will make that claim.

I have worked hard over many years to be a productive and involved citizen. I have watched several communities develop over the years, some of which were bedroom communities much like Saratoga Springs, and I have been active in citizen service and on action committees in those communities.

I am a broadly educated person having earned bachelor, master, and doctorate degrees, and also attended technical school at UVSC, completing journeyman certification in the plumbing trade and obtaining a contractor's license, which I made use of during the summers of my teaching career. My construction experience has given me a very good understanding of the processes that must be followed in both residential and commercial construction, and contributes to my understanding of what infrastructure is required to develop a project successfully. In my college programs I obtained formal training in the physical sciences, in program and business development and evaluation, and in operational budgeting processes. I have past experience as a small businessman, and many years experience in leadership and management. I have worked many jobs over my 45 + years as a productive employee and businessman. I have taught school at the junior high, high school (Provo and Nebo Districts), and college levels (UVSC), receiving several recognition awards for excellence before moving into an administrative role. I was a successful school administrator in Alpine School District for over 13 years.

I have been directly involved in political matters and public service in Saratoga Springs for almost seven years, serving as a volunteer neighborhood representative arguing several matters of interest from Lake Mountain residents before the planning commission and city council. As part of the process of representing my neighborhood and maintaining my interest in how our community is developing I have consistently attended city council regular and work meetings for much of the past six and a half years. I also attended planning commissions meetings regularly during the first three and a half years. I have argued several issues before the council and have offered many suggestions during meetings, especially when the issues are related to residents' concerns about issues that adversely affect them. I have volunteered as coordinator for the development of neighborhood parks for the past year. Since volunteering for the parks development projects, I have helped get three parks completed, am currently supervising two more nearly completed park projects. I have proposed development plans for three more parks in our community. One of those parks would be a regional park for team sports. Nearly all of the parks' work has resulted in several boys earning their Eagle Scout awards. The boys have helped me organize neighborhoods into work crews for the placing of many acres of sod grass and hundreds of trees. I have a proven record of selfless service that I plan to continue to offer our community.

5- What are your goals/plans for the Saratoga Springs Police Department?

I have had several conversations with people who both oppose having our own police department and believe getting our own department is the best thing since the proverbial sliced bread. Before I was appointed to the council and in response to some of the concerns that have been raised, I filed a GRAMMA request and obtained records of salaries of all city employees. I reviewed the salaries of just about everybody and concluded that there were none that were really out of line with responsibilities. Since the citizens finance committee in partnership with the city manager had already trimmed overall employment considerably, I was, and am, comfortable that the police department is not overstaffed at this time. I also do not believe they are particularly understaffed.

I still need to look further into issues like expenditures for vehicles and equipment to see what can be done to insure that they have the necessary resources to perform their jobs, yet hold to efficient use of their resources. I also hope to take some duty rides with officers to get a better picture of what they perceive their role in the community to be.

There is a possibility that the SS police department could get a contract to service Bluffdale too. I have looked at the proposal, and, if every detail goes as advertised, Saratoga Springs could make a profit on that deal. That profit could be used to better equip our department, or to lower the current cost of operating our police department.

This issue needs a lot more examination before a clear conclusion can be made. We need adequate safety resources, but need to have those services provided at an affordable cost. Determining what is affordable vs. what level of services we will have is a difficult and subjective task. I will work to provide what we need and can afford, gradually improving service as resources allow.

6- What are your goals/plans for the Saratoga Springs Fire Department?

Much like the police situation, nobody wants to find himself in a position of danger where needed resources are not available. So much like the police department, we need to have adequate resources and an affordable cost. I grew up in a community a little smaller than SS that used an entirely volunteer fire fighter corp. That system worked well then and still does. SS has had a great volunteer firefighter crew too but our size has grown to where some paid positions seem to be necessary. I favor that adjustment toward more professional firefighters, but I also prefer to maintain a large volunteer corp. I believe that this can best be achieved when we have enough in-city business that our fire fighters can have a primary career job locally rather than outside our city. When they are local they can respond more regularly than when they are out of town most of the time. I plan to monitor our firefighter resources and availability and make recommendations for future department development based on what I perceive our needs and our financial resources will support.

7- What resolutions and or ordinances do you feel need to be created or modified within the next 4 years?

As I mentioned in the first question, I believe we need to get certain information out to residents on a more timely basis. I would present a resolution, possible coupled with an ordinance adjustment that would require certain actions be available to resident for review of one week longer than currently available.

Other considerations will focus on commercial development, responsible residential development changes, and reevaluation of our general (master) plan, and a review of our current court system costs and benefits.

8- What is your favorite US Founding Father quote?

James Madison, "To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without any virtue in the people is a chimerical (*fanciful*) idea."

9- What do you believe the place of the US Constitution is in local government?

The principles of the constitution are not separated into "regional" or tiered categories. Any discussion otherwise would be incorrect.

10- What other question should have been asked, and what is your response?

Q. Other than the city council meetings you may have attended since declaring a candidacy for the council, what involvement have you had in the city's governmental process over the past three years.

A. (same as paragraph 3 of question #4.) I have been directly involved in political matters and public service in Saratoga Springs for almost seven years, serving as a volunteer neighborhood representative arguing several matters of interest from Lake Mountain residents before the planning commission and city council. As part of the process of representing my neighborhood and maintaining my interest in how our community is developing, I have consistently attended city council work sessions and regular meetings for much of the past six and a half years. I also attended planning commissions meetings regularly during the first three and a half years. I have argued several issues before the council and have offered many suggestions during meetings, especially when the issues are related to residents' concerns about issues that adversely affect them. I have volunteered as coordinator for the development of neighborhood parks for the past year. Since volunteering for the parks development projects I have helped get three parks completed, am currently supervising two more nearly completed park projects, and I have proposed development plans for three more parks in our community. One of those parks would be a regional park for team sports. The parks work has resulted in several boys earning their Eagle Scout awards. The boys have helped me organize neighborhoods into work crews for the placing of many acres of sod grass and hundreds of trees. I have a proven record of selfless service that I plan to continue to offer our community.

My conclusion rests in my record, and that is at least partially explained in item 3 and 10. Please refer to those items again and note that I have been a person of action and service. I would like to continue in that vein for a term as city councilman.