

SOUTH SIOUX CITY CITY COUNCIL



**RANDY
MEYER**

1. Why have you decided to run for City Council?

What motivates you to serve in this role, and what specific goals do you hope to achieve for South Sioux City?

2. What do you believe are the most pressing issues facing South Sioux City?

In your view, what are the city's most urgent needs, and how do you plan to address them once in office?

3. How will you ensure you connect with all residents and constituents during your term?

What strategies do you plan to implement to engage with and represent the diverse voices and needs of the entire South Sioux City community?

1. Although I have only lived in South Sioux City for 15 years, it has been my "back yard" for my entire life. I became involved in the city, its meetings, and its direction when I made this my home in 2009. During that time, I have served on several boards for the City, including the Rental Inspection Board in an effort to improve the City for our residents. I believe that we have a great city but am motivated by the fact we can be better. When we have life long politicians, at any level, it stagnates and fails to see all that is possible when viewed with fresh ideas and new perspectives.

Some of my specific goals to achieve are 1) increasing varied retail stores in our community, 2) control spending and the out-of-control increasing taxes/expenses, and 3) fostering community involvement in our City. Other ideas and goals will be determined once in office and had an opportunity to receive input from the public on their thoughts and desires.

2. As I am not yet in office, I am not certain if the city has urgent needs that are not readily visible to the public. From viewing as a citizen, I believe that our taxes are out of control and cannot continue to advance budgets above the states allowable "growth + 2%" structure. To help with this, we must be more vigilant on our utilization of TIF's ("tax increment financing"). Additionally, we need to direct time and attention to attracting more retail establishments (generating additional sales tax revenue) and diverse employers (increasing wages and diversity in our community's skills).

There is another need that I believe is "urgent" to our community but will take several years to accomplish. At this time, we are losing too many of our young to pursue education, careers, and families in other communities. As a community, with the City Council showing solid leadership, we must work together to develop South Sioux City as a place our children choose not to leave as we have education, careers, recreation, entertainment, opportunities, and everything else they WANT to stay here for.

3. For the entire South Sioux City community's voices to be heard, it takes them being involved. We as citizens should feel an obligation to be informed and involved with the actions of our City. So the first strategy is to invite each of you to be involved, attend a committee meeting, City Council Meeting, School Board Meeting, County Commissioner Meeting, etc.

I believe that an elected official has a duty and obligation to be open to meet with all of our diverse cultures, truly listen to their concerns/suggestions, to never make them feel that "it doesn't matter" what they say. We will never all agree on every subject, on every point, but we owe each other the respect of being heard and disagreeing with honor and respect for one another.