

**2019 CANDIDATE PROFILE GUIDE**

**SHAWNEE MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Candidate Name:** DAWN RATTAN

**Candidate for Ward #:** 3

**Address:**

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SHAWNEE, Kansas 66226

**Campaign E-Mail:** dawnRattan5@gmail.com

**Campaign Website:**

<https://www.dawnrattanforshawnee.com/>

**Phone:** 913-461-3374

**Campaign Treasurer:** DAWN RATTAN

**Candidate's Occupation:** Business Owner

**Work History – Last Five Years (25 word limit):**

Village West Discount Liquors 2009 - Present EverFit Gym 2015 - present

**Most Recent Political/Community Experience (25 word limit):**

Member of Shawnee Tomorrow, class of 2019. Member of Shawnee Chamber of Commerce since 2015

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with a local or state chamber of commerce? If yes, please list chamber(s) and any leadership positions you have held (25 word limit):**

Member of Shawnee Tomorrow, class of 2019(Class Speaker). Member of Shawnee Chamber of Commerce since 2015 Leadership 2000, Class 29 - KCK Chamber

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with any other business organization(s)? If yes, please list organization(s) (25 word limit):**

Member of Shawnee Tomorrow, class of 2019(Class Speaker). Member of Shawnee Chamber of Commerce since 2015 Leadership 2000, Class 29 - KCK Chamber

**As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues (25 words per line):**

1. Smart Economic Development that supports a Thriving Community for current and future residents
2. A Healthier Shawnee through better walkability, healthy restaurants, parks & rec promotions, increased use of our amenities that attract people and businesses to Shawnee
3. Improved community communication and engagement

**What are your views on the services and value citizens receive for their local tax dollars?**

I feel satisfied with the services and value that we receive.

**What changes, if any, would you propose to the current City budget?**

Every line item needs to align with our city's goals and masterplan. Economic Development is 6% of budget and I would like to compare that percentage to similar and neighboring cities. If they are higher, then I think we should increase it by at least 2%. Add more businesses to pay more of the tax base.

**What role, if any, do you believe the City should play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to our City?**

We need businesses that provide goods, services and jobs so our Shawnee residents can spend their dollars in their city, and offer amenities that cause people from other areas to come and spend their money in Shawnee. We also need these business to share in the tax base. The city's leaders need to assertively work to make Shawnee amenable to businesses. Our reputation needs to change to a partner and helpful community for businesses. City leaders should be open to incentives when the objectives and process is clear.

**What do you think the three greatest opportunities are for the City's economy in the next ten years and how would you capitalize on them?**

Create a long term masterplan that we use and connect all economic development back to the plan. Attract more businesses to the city of Shawnee. It's a win-win where we get more taxes from businesses and more goods and services and jobs. Hold new businesses accountable to start up on time, and provide committed jobs. Retain current residents and businesses by providing goods and services within the city.

**What is your philosophy on the role the City should play in terms of metro-area issues?**

We must work regionally in order to succeed. For instance, when I talked with Kevin Fern about Shawnee tourism, he discussed how he attracts sports teams and conferences to Shawnee but must work with region/neighboring cities in order to secure hotel rooms. It's an example how we must be partners with other areas of the metro. Also, some issues are not unique to Shawnee, so we should benchmark and learn from other cities when we are looking for solutions. Shawnee's legacy demonstrates that we can be a leader and role model for a great city in the metro area.

**What do you think are the greatest challenges and/or opportunities for the City in the next ten years and how would you address them?**

The leaders of the city must work as a team. The stormwater drainage solution. Attracting and retaining residents and businesses They are addressed by creating a great masterplan with challenging goals and leaders committing to working toward those goals over those 10 years.

**What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race, making you best suited to serve?**

I'm eager, open-minded and interested in doing what's needed to meet the city's goals. I have integrity and my motives are to be a servant leader. I'll work as a team member on city council and do what's right for Shawnee through collaboration and consensus. My work experience gives me skills in collaboration, organization design, budgeting, priority setting, human resources, leadership, and marketing. I've been fortunate to work with people from varied backgrounds and points of view, including union members, executives, stay at home moms, volunteers, and customers. I look forward to serving the diverse citizens of Shawnee!