

Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:70 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Tyler Graves

2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 21087 Crestview Street

City/State/Zip : Spring Hill, Kansas 66083

4. Phone Number

9135968609

5. Email Address

gravestjg@yahoo.com

6. Campaign Website

2. Candidate Background

7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

[Social Media Manager]

2015 - Current

Small Business Owner [Collar Pet Boutique]

2019 - 2020

Small Business Owner [The Bean Coffee Co]

2018 - Current

8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce [2018 business of the year]

Merit Award Winner [2019 The Bean Coffee Co.]

9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

Spring Hill City Council Member [2020 - current]

Donated and raised money for a number of local organizations [Always & Furever, Alex's Lemonade Stand, Spring Hill School District, COTA - Alicia Berkey, Healthcare Professional Donations, Spring Hill Education Foundation, Noah's Bandage Project, Spring Hill School Afterprom, SHIFT, KCFC K1 Cheer].

3. Issues and Policy

10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (100 words or less)

1. Identify and appoint the best available candidate for City Administrator.

2. Improving our infrastructure remains a priority for me. We've been able to address safety concerns at 199th and Ridgeview, 207th and Webster, and will begin work on Webster Street later this summer. Identifying revenue sources to expand our general street maintenance program remains a top priority for me.

3). Working with our present and future business community to ensure that Spring Hill remains a positive place for businesses to begin or expand.

11. What are your views on the services and value the City's citizens receive for their local tax dollars? (100 words or less)

We've got to continue to strive to do better with the available tax dollars we have. I'm proud of the work I've been able to be part of since joining the City Council. As Mayor, improving our roads with available tax dollars will be a top priority for me.

I want to ensure Spring Hill's economic success and financial stability. Like many growing communities, Spring Hill is facing some challenges that we need to address. I'm dedicated to listening to the people of our town to address the issues behind the concerns of our citizens.

12. What changes, if any, would you like to see to the City budget? (100 words or less)

One thing I'd like to prioritize, which we've started to do recently, is paying for things with available funds instead of leasing so many items.

I'd also like us to prioritize street maintenance within our budget.

13. What role, if any, do you believe the City should play in economic development to bring jobs and capital investment to the community? (100 words or less)

A priority of mine will be to work with our present and future business community to ensure that Spring Hill remains a positive place for businesses to begin or expand.

Whether through the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce or through State contacts whom I've developed relationships with, I will work to ensure that our policies and standards are such that we continue to attract new businesses. To do this, we will continue implementing common sense policies that are designed to promote growth.

14. As the City considers future development and redevelopment projects, describe your views on how the City should best manage and balance growth? (100 words or less)

There's no doubt that Spring Hill is facing an increase in growth like we've never seen before.

If I'm elected Mayor, my preference would be to grow at a pace that we can support.

I believe we are setting ourselves up for failure if we focus solely on growth, while neglecting the upkeep of infrastructure and older parts of our community.

Businesses like QuikTrip will be a wonderful addition for our town, and we need to take revenue we receive from that to start repairing roads and making Spring Hill a more attractive option for other businesses.

15. What is your philosophy on the role the City should play in terms of metro-area issues? (100 words or less)

I believe that Spring Hill can and should be a leader in metro-area issues. While I think it's important to take a look at what neighboring cities are doing, if I'm Mayor we will not replicate what neighboring cities are doing just to be aligned with them.

I will listen to our citizens and council and advocate what is best for our town and our community.

16. What do you believe the takeaways for the City should be, if any, from the COVID-19 pandemic experience? (100 words or less)

From a City perspective, I was proud of the way we handled this pandemic. We weren't perfect, but we did our best with the information we had available.

I don't know if this fully answers the question, but the biggest takeaway for me was how amazing our community is.

As a community, we donated food and resources to those who were in need. I witnessed complete strangers paying it forward in a number of different ways.

I saw the community rally around our small businesses and families. COVID was awful, but our community really stepped up.

17. What do you believe are the greatest challenges the City faces over the next ten years and how would you address them? (100 words or less)

I want to ensure Spring Hill's economic success and financial stability. Like many growing communities, Spring Hill is facing some challenges that we need to address (Improving infrastructure, reliable internet options, creating more connectivity throughout town).

Like I've said previously, identifying revenue sources to expand our general street maintenance program will be a top priority for me.

I'm dedicated to listening to the people of our town to address the issues behind the concerns of our citizens. I want to be the leader of an engaged community and I feel if we all work together, success will follow.

18. Why are you seeking this public office? (100 words or less)

I am running for Mayor because I want to make a positive impact in a community that has been and continues to be so good to my family and I.

I want to serve as our next Mayor to be able to further promote a tone of positivity, one of future and of opportunity so that I can help take our community to the next level.

19. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve in this position and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)

I am committed to Spring Hill. I'm the only candidate who has chosen to live, work, raise a family and start multiple businesses here.

I feel that I'm the best candidate to handle the unique challenges that businesses and families face. My leadership skills don't begin and end with times of economic expansion, they also include managing through times of economic contraction. Having the right leader in place for all economies is essential to ensuring our community's overall financial health, and ensuring Spring Hill is THE place families want to live.