Mayor and/or City Council 2021

Response ID:46 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Brian Peel

2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite: 19994 W 218th St

City/State/Zip: Spring Hill

4. Phone Number

785-213-1907

5. Email Address

brianpeel33@gmail.com

6. Campaign Website

https://www.facebook.com/PeelSpringHillCityCouncil

2. Candidate Background

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

Director

Spring Hill Recreation Commission

July 2016 - 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.

Board Member

Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce

2019 - Current

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

Board Member/Vice President

Spring Hill Fall Festival Committee

2019-2020

3. Issues and Policy

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

Infrastructure repairs and upgrades

Budget planning and development

Business and commercial development

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

Spring Hill's taxes are high, there is no doubt about that. We need to find ways to make the current resources provide more infrastructure. We also need to look at increasing revenue by generating more sales tax with commercial developments.

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

There are many that are needed, I feel confident in that. I'm uncertain as to the exact details of what needs to change without a full budget process review, which would be the first step I would push for in addressing the budget. Finding the right balance between expense, revenue, and debt is the key to putting Spring Hill on a path of better financial health.

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)

The City is a facilitator most of the time, meaning their role is to assist businesses that want to join the community. Provide businesses advice and/or policy assistance to make the transition a smooth and simple process. At other times, the City's role is that of a recruiter, actively pursuing businesses that would benefit the business and the community. There needs to be balance between these roles.

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)

Steady, balanced growth avoiding large or rapid changes. There are many variables that factor into what "growth" looks like and all of those variables need to be considered and contemplated. If one variable changes drastically, it will have an affect on other variables. The growth approach also needs to be flexible, able to adjust its course of action if the desired results are not being achieved.

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

The City should always be well informed of metro-area issues, and how they might affect Spring Hill. The City must also keep in mind that many metro-area issues may not be directly applicable to Spring Hill for a variety of reasons. Smart decision making from City staff and elected officials is necessary to prioritized metro-area issues that are applicable to Spring Hill.

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

One, staff (and people in general) are resilient. No matter how difficult of a situation you present someone, they will find a solution. Many people and businesses were presented very difficult circumstances and they prevailed. Two, leadership makes a difference, especially in difficult times. Third, prepare for difficult times because you never know when they might come.

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)

Budgeting - there are a lot of things to invest in now, and it will take additional time to grow the revenue. Prioritization may be difficult for some time.

Infrastructure repair/upgrade - Lots of things need addressed, streets, parks, sidewalks/trails, curb/gutter, etc.

Partnerships - need to foster quality working relationships with USD 230 and other community organizations.

Public image - improve relationship with the citizens of the community. Better trust and confidence in the City.

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

I want to make a difference and make good decisions for my community. My family and I have committed ourselves to being a part of this community into the future and I want to see it grow and develop in a way that we can all be proud of.

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've worked for local small government organizations for the past 10 years and probably will continue to do so for the rest of

my career. In that time I have witnessed and experienced a great deal activity in growing and moving those organizations forward. I believe that experience has given me a unique perspective to help the City be successful from a City Council position.