

Gardner Mayor/City Council 2021

Response ID:4 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Tory Roberts

2. Candidate for Ward # (if applicable)

Mayor Gardner Ks

3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 17125 Jessica St

City/State/Zip : Gardner, Kansas 66030

4. Phone Number

9134495522

5. Email Address

tory@kc.rr.com

6. Campaign Website

<https://votetorygardnerkansas.blogspot.com>

2. Candidate Background

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

Scheduling Manager at Stouse, LLC. I have worked at Stouse for 26 years.

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.

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

Current City Council member Gardner, Kansas. Former Chairperson of the Planning Commission Gardner, Kansas. Current president of the Gardner Lions Club. Current officer American Legion Auxiliary Gardner, Kansas. Current officer Gardner Chapter PEO. Member Daughters of the American Revolution.

3. Issues and Policy

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

Infrastructure Needs - maintaining and creating.
Planning for future growth that makes sense for Gardner.
Representing all of the citizens of Gardner

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

Continue to Improve the tax base for Gardner residents to ensure high quality of life. Bringing well-suited developments to help the tax base.

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

Potentially create a waste water and sewer utility. Gardner is very flat and we have lots of water drainage issues In many areas of Gardner.

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)

I'm a firm believer the city plays an important active role in economic development. We owe it to our citizens to create a more level tax base between businesses and homeowners.

14. How do you plan to communicate effectively with the businesses and citizens of the community? (100 words or less)

I'm a very transparent person and all aspects of my life. I think city government should be very transparent as well. I think Town Hall meetings are good idea, but not everybody attends meetings. I think we would need to use all resources available like social media newsletters, meetings, events, etc...

15. 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)

The city needs to use all of the resources available. We need to use our master plan as a guide but also be flexible at times. Well suited developments that create maximum quality of life for the residents would be the top of my list. Encourage development, but maintain the small town charm.

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

I think Gardner needs to work with neighboring communities. Working together will benefit all involved. There will be upcoming annexation issues, upcoming shared road projects, the potential weigh station on I-35 and minimizing truck traffic. Working together with other metro communities will be very beneficial.

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

I believe Gardner handled the pandemic very well. I think the city bonded together and helped each other out when needed. I think good planning in the past helped the city continue to be a financially strong entity.

18. 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 think the infrastructure needs are going to continue be an issue. I think the road sales tax may have to be voted on again when it sunsets. I also believe there may be a need for additional sales tax initiatives to help with the growth. Ideally we will have economic development opportunities that can pay for the infrastructure needs. Gardner grew very fast and we are trying to catch up. I think we can get there, but we may have to think outside of the box.

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

Gardner deserves transparent representation. I will represent the citizens 100%. I love Gardner and I will be the biggest cheerleader for the town and all of its citizens! I will always Listen and represent Gardner.

20. 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 have no personal agenda. My only agenda is to represent Gardner. Gardner is a great place to live work and play. I give back each day in my community to make it be a better place.
