

Candidate Questionnaire

Please provide some personal background information:

A. Name: Deb Allison-Aasby

B. Occupation: Investment & Financial Advisor at Carl M. Hennig, Inc. and a small business owner-Lakeshore Coffee Company. Both are located in Oshkosh, WI.

C. Community activities: When time permits I find value in engaging with a non-profit in Oshkosh that works with women who have challenges to overcome from sex trafficking, sexual abuse & drug addiction.

During my time on Council I have served on The Grand Opera House Advisory Committee, Long Range Finance Committee, Parking & Utility, Committee on Aging and the Transit Advisory board.

Why do you want to be on city council?:

I would like to be re-elected to Council so that I can continue to contribute in a meaningful way to have Oshkosh be a city that current & future residents and business owners are proud to call home. I think it is important to have Council members that are willing to listen, have the ability to productively collaborate and not be afraid to tackle tough issues straight on. I believe I have brought that to the Common Council during my time and I would like to continue.

Please outline what you consider to be the City of Oshkosh 3-5 most critical issues?

The critical issues of Oshkosh include but are not limited to and not in any particular order:

1. Lost revenues from State & Federal
2. Affordable housing in the City of Oshkosh
3. Recruitment and retention of employees for growing Oshkosh businesses.
4. Creative Economic Development solutions for sections of the City that would be ideal for development, however, may have issues with soil contamination.
5. Adequate public safety and resources for our growing community.

Please identify and discuss what you consider to be of top two or three economic development priorities that you will champion?

Geographic locations for economic development that first come to mind would be our:

- The Southwest Industrial Park which has our new trans load facility.
- The Sawdust District which is included in the Opportunity Zone.
- Aviation Industrial Park
- Morgan District

Oshkosh is fortunate to have GO-EDC, The Oshkosh Chamber and the City all working toward an exciting economic development landscape. I am looking very forward to our future.

Do you support the City's use of Tax Incremental Financing to assist in development and/or redevelopment of areas with in Oshkosh?

I am in support of using Tax Incremental Financing as a tool to support economic development. We need to compete with other communities. With that being said, we need to use the tool for legitimate projects that will make an impact. Moving forward we will need to carefully consider the length of time a TIF is in effect.

Do you support a proposal to establish a Transportation Utility Fee program as a way to eliminate special assessments?

This is a fair question. It is important to have good infrastructure and the City of Oshkosh has wrestled for quite some time on how to address special assessments. What is fair to property owners (both residential and commercial)? What is the best way to assess for improvements? I have not found consensus among leaders or constituents when asking their opinion. I would like to find an answer that would be a fair and equitable compromise for all. The biggest issue to keep in mind is that any proposal would not take away all assessments to the property owner but rather cut the expense significantly. The current proposal is one that a neighboring city in Winnebago County is adopting and currently working through. Until we are provided more answers it is a difficult one to decide if it is worthy of support. Please feel free to follow up with me as new developments come along.

I would like to thank the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce for the opportunity to share my thoughts on the questions that are pressing to the membership.

All the best,

Deb Allison-Aasby

