

Brighton - Cramahe
Chamber Of Commerce
Questions and Answers

BY

Jim Williams

1). What is a council member's role in the municipality?

- A) To prepare for and attend Council meetings as well as any committee meetings assigned to the member.
- B) To become familiar with the Municipal Act and guidelines governing this role.
- C) To become knowledgeable about council policies and procedures and clarify these to the public when appropriate.
- D) To show respect to other members of Council in discussions and debate.
- E) To show respect for Staff by being professional and ethical in working with all employees.
- F) To communicate with the public to provide up to date information about current Council business and to seek input on major decisions before Council.
- G) To work as a team member on Council to make the best decisions for the future of the Municipality.

2). Explain your understanding of economic development and describe the significance to our community.

Economic Development, in the broad sense, refers to residential, commercial and industrial development. It also includes tourism and employment opportunities. It defines the tax base and the income for the municipality. It signifies growth and is of great importance in controlling the tax rate.

3). If elected, how will you foster greater levels of cooperation within council?

By preparing for meetings, having a positive attitude and showing respect for fellow members of council. This is part of the leadership role of the Deputy Mayor. In addition, a compulsory workshop should be arranged with the resources of the Ministry of Municipality Affairs. It would be one of my goals to arrange this for Council members and designated staff early in the term.

4). How could staff retention be enhanced? What would you do to attract employees?

Staff retention could be enhanced by having a Succession Policy. This should be developed by a committee of staff and council. This policy would help to attract new employees. Showing respect for staff and involving employees in decisions that affect their working environment will help to make the municipality a welcoming place.

5). In light of the fact that the municipality does not have staff with an economic development portfolio, how would address the gap in services ?

An Economic Development Committee of ratepayers with representation from Council should be appointed early in the term to develop an E D plan to promote industrial, commercial and residential development as well as tourism. This committee should determine if a " gap in services" indeed does exist and make recommendations to Council with regard to redistribution of staff or adding staff as well as, budget, etc.

6). What is the biggest issue facing the municipality and how would you tackle it?

Like many municipalities the biggest issue is repairing and replacing aging infrastructure. There has been some action taken by the present Council. This must continue in the new term. The problems include maintenance of roads, expansion of the sewage system and repair of the storm sewers and sewer pipes to increase the sewage capacity. The township has started a plan to increase the sewage capacity. This must continue to allow residential development to proceed. The extension of the sewage system to Purdy Road, Industrial Park and Big Apple Drive must be approved and must receive funding from the Provincial and Federal Governments. This will encourage expansion of present commercial and industrial companies and attract new ones. In addition funding must be provided to maintain our roads and to continue the replacement of gravel roads with hard top.

7). How do you plan to involve residents in the decision making process in our municipality?

The use of the enhanced website for direct two-way communication with the public is an important first step. The site can be used to provide up to date information about current council business, and projects and to seek input on major decisions before council. The monthly reports of Committees of Council can be made available to the public and should invite more participation. The only way the Corporation of the Township could involve all shareholders in every decision would be to have a referendum on every issue. This would impede the work of Council and cause it to be ineffective.

8). What would you do to retain and attract businesses to our municipality?

In a word, GROWTH. An increase in residential and commercial development with a corresponding increase in employment opportunities and population will attract more businesses. With the amount of development in both areas that is forecast in the next term of council it is paramount that economic development be a top priority. (See answers to questions 2, 5 and 6.

9). What is your plan for the municipality over the next four years?

A) to maintain the tax rate at the current or lower level.

B) to increase the participation of the public in the business of the Municipality

C) to involve youth and seniors in the identification and development of special programs in each group

D) through asset management and economic development to improve the infrastructure in the municipality.

E) to provide better services through cooperation with other municipalities in the county.

F) to improve the quality of life in our municipality

10). Why should people vote for you?

My experience in Municipal Council;

My expertise in rational and responsible decision making;

My progressive leadership and vision for the future.

Help to improve our Council and improve our community: Our Pride and Passion.

Vote Jim Williams for Deputy Mayor



BRIGHTON - CRAMAHE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Questions for 2018 Municipal Council Candidates

Sandra Arthur

- 1) What is a council member's role in the municipality?
 - To represent the Municipality to the best of our ability. That includes listening to the staff, residents, and businesses, fellow Council members with all concerns, questions and responses. It is researching and preparing for each and every Council meeting. Council is there to set various Policies and Procedures along with working with CAO and senior staff with concerns on the day to day Operations as well.
- 2) Explain your understanding of economic development and describe the significant to our community.
 - Economic Development is a key factor within every Community. Without the business industry creating jobs within our Community the lives of our families, friends and neighbours could be jeopardized and our Cramahe Township would not grow. Improving the economic development creates jobs, job retention, tax base growth which is Survival.
- 3) If elected, how will you foster greater levels of cooperation within council?
 - Team Building is key among Council. Communication needs to improve between senior staff and all of Council. With all information being shared of importance it allows Council to better understand each situation which allows decisions to be made with all information.
- 4) How could staff retention be enhanced? What would you do to attract employees?
 - Within this last term of Council I have been involved in many of the interviews for the various positions. With our Community being just over 6,000 people it does not allow us to compete with the compensation packages that are offered within the larger Municipalities. We need to do our best to provide a team environment that makes every day enjoyable to come to work. We are within commuting to the larger cities which allows the opportunity for applicants who are looking to leave the City but still wish to remain closer to family and be able to live and work here. This provides us

applicants who are within a few years of retirement to bring their life skills which enhances our Team. So being able to bring a new family to Cramahe and have them work here is a win, win.

- 5) In light of the fact that the municipality does not have staff with an economic development portfolio, how would you address the gap in services?
 - There has been an economic development staff within the past which I do not believe is a full time position at this point. We as Cramahe need to identify all our areas of potential growth and capacity. From that we know what we have and what we will need to expand on those assets. If at that time it involves a new staff person or working with neighbouring Municipalities or the County that is a decision for that time.
 - This last term of council there has been an Economic Development committee who have been working on various areas of the gap in service. I have been able to work with this group over the last year and half and enjoyed the opportunity and hopefully we will be able to continue moving forward.

- 6) What is the biggest issue facing the municipality and how would you tackle it?
 - Communication is #1 Issue. WE need to be informed of all activity happening within the Municipality. We need to have all information brought out on the Waste Water Treatment Plant and capacity again to know what we can and cannot handle.
 - IF Council and residents are not aware of our full potential than how do we move forward?
 - Business Plans need to be made for projects moving forward. Costs need to be justified before proceeding with large scale projects.

- 7) How do you plan to involve residents in the decision making process in our municipality?
 - I have always said my phone is always on and door is always open. Residents are vital within our Community. They are the ones living in various areas of the community who see and hear what is happening. Their expertise is so important and if we can have them participate by speaking with us or even getting involved within our various Committees we are in a win, win situation.
 - We need to possibly have open public meetings more often to allow them to participate.

- 8) What would you do to retain and attract businesses to our municipality?
 - We need to have all the vital information in regards to our WWTP capacity before we can attract any future business to the Municipality. We cannot promise anyone anything until us as the Township of Cramahe are fully aware of what we have.

- 9) What is your plan for the municipality over the next 4 years?
 - Working together to enhance the Township of Cramahe. Being open and honest to each and every one of you as I have in this past term of council. Township of Cramahe is an amazing Community with lots of potential. With a Business Plan for our large capital projects and how that could enhance our Municipality we could be stronger than ever.

- 10) Why should people vote for you?
 - I have enjoyed this last Term of Council being able to work with the residents, business groups, volunteers, staff and fellow council. I work hard in preparing for each and every Council meeting. I am able to listen to all the concerns and work to make sure that responses are sent to everyone involved.

Please let us know if you prefer to receive this questionnaire electronically and a copy will be emailed.