

St. Joseph Local Candidate Questionnaire

1. Do you support competition in Buchanan County’s healthcare?

Aaron Armstrong:

I feel our Healthcare should be equal to neighboring cities

Taylor Crouse:

Yes.

2. How do you feel the mask mandate went in St. Joseph?

Aaron Armstrong:

The mask mandate failed in our city as not all people followed by the mandate yet even though masking helps in preventing the spread of Covid-19 it doesn't 100% protect anyone from Covid-19

Taylor Crouse:

Not well. I will not support any new version of a mask mandate.

3. Do you support policies that would permit males and females to share the same public restrooms, locker rooms, and showers, based on their self-identified gender instead of their natural born gender?

Aaron Armstrong:

Absolutely Not!! and to add to that our children use those restrooms and we have to protect our children from potential perpetrators as well!!

Taylor Crouse:

No.

4. Do you support requiring photo ID to vote?

Aaron Armstrong:

Yes!

Taylor Crouse:

Yes.

- 5. If faced with a budget deficit, would you support or oppose cutting spending rather than increasing taxes?**

Aaron Armstrong:

Most of our residents are struggling with the high amount of taxes that we already pay. I am in full support of cutting spending and I've said in my Campaign we also have to find ways to raise funding and not at the taxpayers expense. to add to that we need to look at the taxes that are being paid by the taxpayers and look at what is a benefit and what is not, as the taxes that aren't a benefit that actually helps our community should be prioritized to areas those taxes will actually benefit.

Taylor Crouse:

A tax increase should only be authorized by a vote of the people.

- 6. If the council were given \$1M to use to fund projects in St. Joseph, what would you fund?**

Aaron Armstrong:

You say projects yet our Police Department is very short-staffed and I feel that money would be better spent on our Law Enforcement to raise their wages to be equal of neighboring cities and hire and retain more officers for crime control in our city. if it has to be an actual project then I'd fund what the people have complained about for a long time now which is roads in certain areas of town.

Taylor Crouse:

Those that generate a return on investment.

- 7. Do you believe in equity (equal outcome) or equality (equal opportunity)?**

Aaron Armstrong:

Absolutely Yes!

Taylor Crouse:

Equal opportunity.

8. How does St. Joseph compare to Kansas City? What lessons can each city learn from each other?

Aaron Armstrong:

In comparison to Kansas City, Saint Joseph has lower wages as Kansas City has a much bigger population yet Kansas City also has multiple homicides per week whereas Saint Joseph Homicide rate is alot less and wish we had none at all. I believe Saint Joseph can learn from Kansas City by increasing the wages to align with Kansas City, here for our Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, and School officials in hiring and retention of those In which would help in combating crime and at the same time more people would move to Saint Joseph to have their children attend school and would be a safer place to live.

Kansas City I believe can learn from Saint Joseph by Engaging the people more and listening to their people in their community as our community hasn't been perfect in doing so however when we have engaged our people it often has made a world of difference and don't really ever see that in Kansas City.

Taylor Crouse:

We have a rich history here but all too often we chose to remain stuck in it and resist progress. I do think KC has many of the same ills but our personal ills can be hidden on a larger stage.

9. Merrick Garland stated that the greatest threat comes from racially or ethnically motivated violence, “specifically those who advocated for the superiority of the white race”. Do you agree or disagree?

Aaron Armstrong:

I disagree and I will say why! the violence in our community and Surrounding communities isn't a race issue as it more often then not has to do with drugs, gangs, or the way a child has been raised and I have seen every race there is charged with the violence we have seen over the years. Furthermore we have to as a society quit blaming race as that adds to division and we need unity and equality and we do have to remember that we all are the same color on the inside.

Taylor Crouse:

Disagree.

10. Are there circumstances where the city council can restrict the church from assembling? If so, under which circumstances?

Aaron Armstrong:

Not that I'm aware of!

Taylor Crouse:

None whatsoever.

City Council – District 2

Additional Info:

Aaron Armstrong:

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