

Candidates for Mayor of Appleton 2020-Woodford and Clemons

None of the responses have been edited.

<p>Questions</p>	 <p>Jake Woodford</p>	 <p>James E. Clemons</p>
<p><i>I. Please provide your background and explain your interest in the being the Mayor of Appleton.</i></p>	<p>I am a fourth-generation Appletonian - I was born, raised, educated, and married here and I know the opportunities and challenges we face. I earned a degree in government from Lawrence University and for the last seven years have been a senior administrator at the university. I have overseen an array of operational issues and represented the university in negotiations with developers, state regulators, and educational institutions. I've engaged in planning initiatives like the downtown mobility plan, the transit development plan, and the trails master plan. I have managed the relationship between the University and City, working closely with the mayor and city staff. I am also a commissioner on the Appleton Redevelopment Authority, leading on important development decisions including authorizing bonds to finance the Fox Cities Exhibition Center. I want this city to be a safe, affordable, and welcoming, and as mayor, that's what I'll work to achieve.</p>	<p>I am a lifelong Appleton resident. I met my wife Lisa here and we chose to raise our family in Appleton. I graduated from Appleton East and Lisa from Appleton West, and Tyler and McKenzie both graduated from Appleton North and then UW-Madison. I have been actively involved in the community my entire life and would love the opportunity to give something substantial back. Appleton has been a great place to grow up and raise a family.</p> <p>As Mayor, I will work very hard to ensure the quality of life in Appleton continues to foster a safe, accepting, growing community for present and future generations. We owe them that, and I owe it to Appleton.</p> <p>Community Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apple Creek YMCA Board of Directors 2019- Present Apple Creek YMCA Finance Committee 2019- Present Appleton Alderperson, District 13 2004 – 2014 Appleton Alderperson, District 7 1994 – 2004 Appleton City Council President (Two Terms) Appleton North High School Booster Club President Ran Golf Tournament Fund raisers for Pop Warner Youth Football AAU HIGH SCHOOL Men's Basketball Coach

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		<p>Ran Fund Raising Golf Tournament for Appleton North Booster Club Appleton North Girls and Boys Basketball Club High school and college sports official (master level basketball) YMCA Youth basketball Coach</p>
<p><i>2. Please state your qualifications to oversee 600 employees and \$190 million dollar budget.</i></p>	<p>Lawrence University is a \$70 million-per-year enterprise, itself like a small city within Appleton. We handle trash and recycling collection, snow removal, fleet vehicle maintenance, safety, budgeting, constituent relations, insurance (like the City of Appleton, Lawrence has a self-funded healthcare plan), and infrastructure. I co-authored Lawrence’s strategic plan and am overseeing implementation of a portion of that plan, developing the strategy to allocate scarce resources to achieve plan objectives. I have experience with nearly every operational aspect of the university. I’ve supervised staff, directed significant projects, and shepherded major agreements with other entities, including an agreement with the University of Wisconsin System to improve the transfer admissions process, increasing access to a Lawrence education. I negotiated a conservation easement with the Door County Land Trust to permanently protect over 300 acres of shoreline on Lake Michigan in Baileys Harbor. I will bring this experienced leadership to the mayor’s office.</p>	<p>Experience and leadership -My twenty years on Council and the knowledge of how the system works is an essential asset. I have the experience of holding an elected office and the leadership of being elected by my peers as two-time Council President. I have been through the budget process twenty times and I know the complexity involved. No other candidate (with one exception of serving a single term in 1990) has held any elective office. Knowing what your elected officials on council need - and when they need it - to make well-informed long-term financial decisions that have major impacts on the Appleton taxpayer should be a bare minimum requirement.</p> <p>With Appleton’s ongoing opportunities and limited tax payer dollars in mind, my experience and leadership are needed now, more than ever.</p> <p>In my professional life I have worked with the states largest hospitals and providers systems utilizing measurable data to increase quality and efficiency measures with the overall goal being better outcomes. This ability to make very good organizations even better will serve the taxpayer well.</p>
<p><i>3. Do you think our main street/downtown is healthy and successful? If not, what would you</i></p>	<p>There are many positive indicators around downtown health and growth. A number of residential projects are in the works, including at 320 E. College, which I helped facilitate through my role at Lawrence. In the last several years, new businesses have found success downtown and programming like the Farm Market adds to the overall quality and</p>	<p>The current downtown area is healthy now with a huge upside if current opportunities are done correctly. The right combination of new and existing building exists and there is a realistic excitement for developers from a location standpoint.</p>

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<p><i>do to change that? What is the city's role in supporting economic development projects?</i></p>	<p>vibrancy of Appleton. Mile of Music has bolstered our music scene. The Fox Cities PAC is an incredible asset which enables an abundance of community-enhancing activities. In some cases, the City played an integral role supporting development and activity downtown, from using TIF to support development to leveraging the Appleton Redevelopment Authority to remediate properties - both of which I support so long as they're responsible with taxpayer dollars. In other cases, the right thing for city government to do was support the conditions for a project and then let it happen without interference.</p>	<p>The City must work to streamline the process for opening and maintaining a business. This can be done by a fully staffed and trained workforce and open internal lines of communication between departments. In addition keeping council informed as projects work their way through the process and up to date on any changes of scope will also enhance the process.</p> <p>We will always keep our word to developers and work through any issues in a timely, efficient consistent manner. They deserve that and proper growth of our tax base benefits all taxpayers, especially those on fixed incomes.</p>
<p><i>4.How do you stand on the downtown development regarding the US Venture project and the library/apartment building?</i></p>	<p>On US Venture, specifically: I think it would be great to have US Venture in downtown Appleton. The potential positive this move could bring to our community is huge. This must be done responsibly, not being directly subsidized by taxpayer dollars. If this issue has not been resolved when I take office, there will be a significant and transparent process of due diligence to ensure the project is responsible with taxpayer dollars. If this issue has been resolved, then my job as mayor will be to keep the word of the City of Appleton and see to it that any project is executed as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible. Overall, I want residents to know that, as mayor, I will communicate clearly and honestly about development projects and how the city will benefit and what the risks are for the city budget.</p>	<p>The US Venture project is the TYPE of project I would actively pursue as Mayor of Appleton. US Venture is the TYPE of Corporate Citizen we should welcome to our Downtown as a means to expand our tax base as well as foster future developments.</p> <p>However, this specific agreement needs to make economic sense long term and <i>I believe it would be irresponsible for anyone seeking the office of Mayor to comment on an ongoing negotiation.</i> I was not involved in any of the closed sessions so I do not have any firsthand knowledge of what was discussed and/or promised. In general terms we should not negotiate in the media and as an entity make sure we keep our word.</p> <p>Again, this type of corporate citizen added to our already vital downtown area as a magnet for future development, Absolutely.</p> <p>The library project is now connected to the US venture project and seems to be changing rapidly as discussions evolve. I will approach that final project with an open mind when finalized.</p> <p>The library project has been going on for a long time and my personal voting history is as follows.</p> <p>I proposed adding on to the existing facility when the idea originally came to council for approval. That proposal</p>

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		<p>failed. I voted against the project as proposed on the bluff site for a multitude of reasons at the time. That area is now the site of the US venture proposal.</p>
<p><i>5. What are your plans for increasing affordable, accessible, fair housing (including for youth) in Appleton and revitalizing neighborhoods around the central part of the city?</i></p>	<p>Appleton should have a variety of housing options, including affordable housing, to meet the interests and needs of all people. We are fortunate to have numerous not-for-profits supporting housing and keeping people in their homes in our city. In addition to continued support of market-rate housing development, as mayor, I will charge the Appleton Redevelopment Authority with encouraging the development of affordable housing in meeting its economic development and blight-elimination mission. We have potential to greatly enhance our neighborhoods by building on the city's Neighborhood Program. Appleton currently has 20 registered neighborhoods. Additional attention and support can help neighbors strengthen connections and empower them to collaborate to solve problems in ways that make sense for their neighborhoods rather than making mandates from City Hall. Connected neighborhoods are happier, healthier, and safer, and as mayor, I'm committed to strengthening our neighborhoods to improve quality of life for all Appletonians.</p>	<p>I was previously involved in the neighborhood revitalization program and there are similar programs out there now. This program aided those in need with the funds to upgrade their homes and the pride in homeownership spurred other neighbors to do the same. The city needs to make the information available to those in need and work in public private partnerships. There is a definite need and will be included in all comprehensive plans. Putting people in need in touch with those that can help is one of the true pleasures of this job.</p>
<p><i>6. Some people in our community say that we have parking problems. What do you think? How would you mitigate those concerns or change the situation?</i></p>	<p>Ensuring adequate and affordable parking is an important aspect of supporting an active community. Under my administration, parking availability will be a consideration in development agreements and project plans, however, we'll take care not to require the overbuilding of parking or unduly subsidize the construction of parking. After all, parking is not free - somebody pays for it. Parking also carries quality of life and environmental costs. In addition to parking, Appleton should continue to make progress toward being a truly multi-modal community. I will support efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, create greater connectivity in our existing trail system, and improve Valley Transit service. While we will continue to meet the needs of vehicular traffic and parking needs, which serves a majority</p>	<p>The "parking problem" is a nice issue to deal with. The fact that we have enough attraction to our businesses means we are doing something right. Education and communication can be improved to make citizens aware of all available parking options. With the possible developments currently being negotiated parking needs to be part of that discussion for the entire area and shared with council the impacts, costs and solutions long term.</p>

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	of our citizens, Appleton must make investments now to prepare for future changes in the way people move around our city	
<i>7. In terms of developing an economic development plan, how will you incorporate diversity and inclusion from both a resident and supplier perspective? What criteria do you have for partnerships with business and organizations?</i>	In order to ensure Appleton delivers the best economic development experience in our region, I will convene a task force to gather feedback from a wide range of perspectives on the experience we currently deliver. This feedback will come from those who have completed or attempted projects in Appleton, and we'll be sure that feedback comes from as representative a group as possible. To improve the experience we deliver, and to ensure our policies and procedures are equitable, we first need to listen to people. From there, the task force will review best practices from other communities and deliver recommendations no later than March 2021. In the meantime, I will look for ways to immediately improve our process and implement essential changes right away.	<p>There currently is an economic development plan and it is comprehensive. It may need to be adjusted periodically but like any long term planning tool it is as good as those who implement the plan.</p> <p>Policies and procedures should be discussed and kept up to date with current situations.</p> <p>What makes Appleton such a great place to live and raise a family isn't just the buildings and schools, it's the people, all people. We must continue to foster this growing, accepting community and appreciate the difference in people is what make us all better collectively. Any behavior to the contrary is simply unacceptable.</p>
<i>8. Do you support the city Diversity & Inclusion position being included in the budget and in the mayor's office and did you vote to support it if you were in office before?</i>	I absolutely support the Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator position, and I believe it's appropriate for the position to report directly to the mayor. Having a colleague who is looking through the lens of equity and inclusion in an organization is incredibly important. Local corporations are joining educational institutions and municipalities in hiring D&I leaders because they, too, see the value in having such positions. As mayor, I will do everything I can to ensure this valuable position continues to exist in our organization.	Treating all citizens with dignity and respect is vital to our city. This position works well to continue on that path.
<i>9. What is your history of supporting and</i>	I am proud to be an ally and will continue to be one. I've used my leadership roles throughout my life to stand up for vulnerable people and to treat all people with respect and dignity. As mayor, I will lead by example on inclusion.	All citizens in our city should feel safe here and anything short of that is unacceptable. This isn't just done through the diversity coordinator or law enforcement. Each of us needs to stand up when we see these incidents and let

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<p><i>your plan to support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer community?</i></p>	<p>LGBTQ+ community members report routinely feeling unsafe or unwelcome in parts or all of our community. I believe all members of our community deserve to feel safe here, and we shouldn't settle for anything less. In my Vision for Appleton, I've described concrete steps to improve the way our city government treats citizens, which will be essential in leading by example for the rest of our community. I'm also committed to speaking out and reminding our community of our values - this is daily work essential to the role of our mayor.</p>	<p>someone know this won't be tolerated. It may and will be uncomfortable at times but I've done that my entire live and certainly won't stop now. I never understood how anyone could treat another person like that and nevr will.</p>
<p><i>10.What is your position about local law enforcement working with federal agents such as Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) to aid with deportation of undocumented individuals?</i></p>	<p>Appleton must follow the law, and as mayor, I'll be sure we do. That said, I do not feel it's appropriate for local law enforcement to participate in low-priority immigration enforcement. It is not necessary for the Appleton Police Department to harass members of our community regarding immigration status - in essence taking on an unfunded mandate from the federal government.</p>	<p>Our local police department will continue to enforce the law. I would never ask a sworn officer not to. We will continue to partner with all departments as it relates to law enforcement and the protection of our law abiding citizens. One area where I would like to see some improvement involves the children involved in child trafficking having a way to communicate with law enforcement without fear of deportation. They are the true helpless victims in all this and I believe many share that concern.</p>
<p><i>11.Like many other cities, Appleton has seen a rise racial, economic, education, health, housing, and social justice disparities for the underserved and overlooked populations. As the City of</i></p>	<p>The City of Appleton must first look inward to ensure its policies and procedures treat every person who interacts with city government equitably. As mayor, I'm committed to a comprehensive review of our policies and to make changes where necessary to meet this objective. Whether you're applying for a building permit, paying a parking ticket, or applying for a job, you ought to be treated equitably by your municipal government.</p>	<p>As mayor the tone needs to be set that this behavior will not be tolerated. This is done by insuring policies and procedures are up to date and consistently applied. In addition there will be consequences for failure to comply. Sometimes shedding a little public light goes a long way to compliance.</p>

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<p><i>Appleton's Mayor, what will you do to "intentionally dismantle racist, and non-inclusive structures and systems."</i></p>		
<p><i>12. Will you commit to reducing/ eliminating Appleton's Green House Gas emissions by producing local, carbon-free Solar/Wind/Water/ Geothermal municipal power? Do you support Appleton using geothermal to heat and cool city buildings?</i></p>	<p>Preparing for, and mitigating, the impact of extreme weather and climate change in our city is critically important to me and will be a central part of my agenda as mayor. We need a framework for evaluating sustainability and climate resilience projects that takes into account capital investment, operating expenses, and the health of our community. I will charge the Appleton Task Force on Resiliency, Mitigation, and Climate Adaptation with developing such a framework</p>	<p>I believe all options should be considered and researched properly. We have many such options in place and always looking to improve. Those type of decisions will be data based decisions and long term financial implications will always be a part of that matrix.</p>
<p><i>13. Because of the increasing frequency of severe weather events caused by climate change, what would you do as Mayor to protect people,</i></p>	<p>As a municipality, we need to be sure our infrastructure is up to the test of the extreme weather we're sure to see in coming years. Three of the five wettest years on record in Wisconsin were recorded in the last five years - this emphasizes the importance of having stormwater infrastructure that can handle high volumes of water so we don't end up with backups in our basements. We also need to plan for the impacts of severe weather, which is why I'm glad the City has added an emergency management coordinator position in the Department of Health. It's fitting</p>	<p>We are constantly looking for ways to improve our emergency preparedness and collaborating with other local forms of government is a valuable tool. All of our public safety components work toward that goal daily. Again, fully staffed and properly trained workforce is the key and as mayor my budget as submitted will address that..</p>

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<p><i>business and property?</i></p>	<p>that the role exists in the Health Department, as many of the effects of climate change and extreme weather are fundamentally public health threats.</p>	
<p><i>14. We know Early Childhood Education makes a positive impact on school readiness. Finding and affording childcare affects all sectors of our local economy. Early childhood programs are struggling to retain and recruit a workforce, resulting in centers unable to staff classrooms. What are viable ways you will support the childcare/early education industry if you are elected?</i></p>	<p>Housing affordability is an essential component of recruiting and retaining practitioners in critical need areas. This includes educators, mental health professionals, among others. In addition to charging the Appleton Redevelopment Authority with supporting the development of affordable housing, I'm also open to exploring other ways of meeting needs for educators and other essential practitioners in our community. This work must be done in partnership with providers in our community and by researching successful practices from other communities, as I don't think it's up to the municipality alone.</p>	<p>The wage issue of this question is handled through the school district.</p> <p>The city can continue to attract the professionals needed through fostering a safe and accepting community and work toward affordable housing at all levels. (see previous response)</p>
<p><i>15. What is your position on</i></p>	<p>Ensuring Appleton is an age-friendly community serves <u>all</u> citizens well by improving accessibility. We will work in partnership with organizations focused on aging and</p>	<p>I would look toward a public private partnership first as many in the private sector are willing to step up. I fully agree on the need but any city involvement from a</p>

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<p><i>allocating city dollars to help fund a senior center in Appleton?</i></p>	<p>disability resources to identify ways to better serve our community. We will consider ways to support accessibility improvements in Appleton, including in city-owned facilities. I believe any significant project, such as a senior center, deserves a thorough community discussion that brings everyone to the table and assesses the right direction to go in as a community. As mayor, I am committed to leading that conversation.</p>	<p>financial standpoint would be discussed as part of the overall budget and there are many variables in that process.</p>
<p><i>16. How do you plan to address homelessness?</i></p>	<p>Homelessness is a multi-faceted, nuanced issue. People experience homelessness for a wide variety of reasons. In the Fox Cities, we're fortunate to have a network of organizations working on the issue of homelessness. As mayor, I'll steward partnerships with these organizations and continue to support efforts to address this issue and root causes in our community. Additionally, I will work to improve housing affordability by encouraging the development of affordable housing in Appleton.</p>	<p>There are many areas in the community that deal with all areas of the continuum regarding homelessness. I was fortunate to work with all of them when chairing the community development committee's block grant program. I look forward to working very closely with that group again an even more now from the position of mayor. If you want to know what truly makes Appleton a great place to live, get to know these individuals and ask them how you can help.</p>
<p><i>17. What are your thoughts on joining the mayors against illegal guns coalition in partnership with Moms Demand Action?</i></p>	<p>As a hunter since my childhood, I support responsible gun ownership. That being said, I also support efforts to prevent gun violence and keep guns out of the hands of people who are a danger to themselves or others. I agree with local law enforcement officials, including Appleton Police Chief Thomas, who have expressed their support of laws that provide intervention tools for police to act proactively, and constitutionally, to prevent tragedies.</p>	<p>We all want to be safe and protected and don't want guns to be in the hands of criminals all while protecting our second amendment rights and upholding the constitution.</p> <p>From Appleton's standpoint I believe we currently have the laws in place and the properly trained department to accomplish that goal. If Chief Thomas feels differently I believe he will bring that to our attention.</p>
<p><i>18. Would you continue the tradition of the rainbow flag at city hall?</i></p>	<p>Yes - I believe in building an inclusive and welcoming city and this is an important step in symbolically representing those values. I do want to ensure we have a consistent policy on special flags that takes equity and inclusion and the flag code into account.</p>	<p>Businesses have the right to fly the flags they wish and I support that right.</p> <p>As for city hall I will fly The US Flag, State of Wisconsin Flag and City of Appleton Flag.</p>

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<p><i>19. Any ideas on how to reduce or at the very least not increase property taxes for the next 5 years?</i></p>	<p>The most important thing we can do to mitigate the need for increased property taxes is to grow Appleton's tax base by attracting new businesses of all sizes. I am committed to making sure Appleton delivers an excellent economic development experience and stewards our taxpayer dollars with care.</p>	<p>We need to grow our tax base while still protecting existing neighborhoods and keeping in mind those on fixed incomes. A fully staffed and properly trained workforce is the key to continued growth and long term success attracting and maintaining the businesses and developments we need to thrive, not just survive. Planned growth tempered with good judgment will give us the long term sustainable growth we need as a city and community.</p>
<p><i>20. The city has a board of health responsible for the health of citizens. What is your position on vaccinations and the personal conviction waiver?</i></p>	<p>We should listen to public health experts on public health issues and there is a clear consensus that vaccinations are an important part of keeping children and communities at large safe and healthy.</p>	<p>The city health department does a great job and always has the health and well being of all our citizens in mind. I fully support their efforts and will continue to as mayor.</p>
<p><i>21. What is your position on project labor agreements and prevailing wage?</i></p>	<p>As I understand it, Project Labor Agreements for local projects are prohibited in Wisconsin. As mayor, I will do everything in my power to make sure City-contracted firms are held to their contracts, and I'll be sure that RFP language is strong, clear, and consistent so we do business with firms that are both cost-effective <u>and</u> responsible. Appleton needs to lead by example on treating workers fairly and compensating appropriately.</p>	<p>I support the open bid process.</p>
<p><i>22. When will the city sell parking permits for residents who want to park overnight on the</i></p>	<p>While there may be revenue potential, there would also certainly be administrative costs and enforcement issues with permitted on-street parking. I am also concerned about the equitability of this type of paid parking. These three issues: administrative cost (net revenue potential), enforcement, and equitability would be included in any</p>	<p>The city does not allow overnight parking on city streets and I support that. There are exceptions granted on an emergency case by case basis. This process is fair and equitable.</p>

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<p><i>streets? Monthly or weekly permits would provide additional revenue.</i></p>	<p>analysis should we choose to explore this possibility under my administration.</p>	
<p><i>23. There has been talk of rezoning Reid Golf Course for multi-family housing. What are your thoughts?</i></p>	<p>There has not been any formal discussion of the idea of rezoning Reid Municipal Golf Course at the Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Management Department level. I'm not supportive without fully understanding the rationale or necessity of such an action. I think maintaining access to green spaces and quality recreational facilities in Appleton is essential to the long-term health of our community. Reid Golf Course serves as a year-round recreational facility for Appleton. It provides access to skiing and sledding in the winter and serves as a cross-country running venue for local schools. It'll also host a fat-tire bike event in the coming year. So long as Reid Golf Course can be responsibly managed from a financial perspective, I'm supportive of it remaining in its current use as a public amenity for our community.</p>	<p>That was never a serious consideration, Reid will remain a golf course.</p>
<p><i>24. What would you do to address the crime by the bus station?</i></p>	<p>In the short term, we need to make sure we are adequately staffing and securing the Transit Center. In the longer term, we need to consider the facility itself - its design, function, and location, in conjunction with the public policy issues and the Valley Transit system itself to get at the deeper issues at play. Appletonians deserve a safe and reliable public transportation system, and as the central hub of that system, the Transit Center needs to exemplify safety and reliability.</p>	<p>That area is an area of concern. Private security has helped a little and our department is doing all they can. We may need to step up enforcement even more as well as some changes in pedestrian traffic flow but this are will have my attention as public safety and all citizens feeling safe at home and out in public is a primary tool for future development.</p>
<p><i>25. If you were elected mayor would you add more public</i></p>	<p>As mayor, I will advocate for the creation of a Regional Transit Authority so that Appleton and our neighboring communities can create the robust public transportation system we need to compete as a region. Without increases in fare revenue or outside financial support, we won't be able to add significantly to our existing service. I think adding to</p>	<p>This again is subject to our budget process and the transit director is continually trying to do more with less. Public transit is an important issue now we need to decide either how we are going to grow the tax base or what other services are we willing to give up.</p>

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<p><i>transit to Appleton?</i></p>	<p>the service we offer now will be critical to increasing our ridership and moving people cost-effectively through our communities.</p>	
<p><i>26. What can be done to make Appleton a truly “no horn” zone for trains?</i></p>	<p>In order to eliminate the non-emergency use of all train horns in Appleton, we’d have to go through the same costly and years-long process we went through to make the main line running through the middle of town a “no horn” zone on every rail line in the City. We will need to carefully prioritize this work if we do pursue it - but I’m certainly open to the discussion.</p>	<p>It was quite a struggle to get us to this point and further enhancements were just not cost effective. As things change perhaps costs can be brought into line but we could not afford the options discussed at the time.</p>
<p><i>27. If you could change one thing about Appleton, i.e. the culture, what would that be? Why?</i></p>	<p>I love this city. Hilary and I have decided to build our lives here because we feel at home in Appleton and we believe this community is headed in the right direction. If I could change one thing immediately, it would be ending street harassment. So many people, especially women, LGBTQ+, and people of color, experience this sort of harassment - people shouting out of cars or catcalling when they’re walking down the street. This runs counter to our core values as a City. It is harmful to the people who experience it, and it degrades our reputation as a welcoming community. It’s an issue I’m committed to addressing as mayor, and I believe we can change it, but it’ll take time and effort that would be better spent on other things if we could</p>	<p>Appleton is already a great place to live and raise a family. We can always improve socially by appreciating the differences of individuals and understanding that we truly are better together,</p>
<p><i>28. If you received a \$1 million grant to use for the city any way you wanted, what would you do with it and why?</i></p>	<p>I would use it to seed a revolving loan fund for small business support. I’ve heard from small business owners how little Appleton has been able or willing to do to help them when they wanted to invest in their existing business or to start a new venture. This fund would provide the City with a tool to help in a financially sustainable way.</p>	<p>The use of the grant would be directly related to the budget at the time and I wouldn’t rule out returning it to the tax payers if warranted.</p>
<p><i>29. What are your thoughts on</i></p>	<p>I am open to the possibility of opening a beer garden in a park, but I would rely on our city staff and appropriate</p>	<p>I am not opposed to that concept, the details as to who would run it and where the money would go need clarification.</p>

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<p><i>the city opening a beer garden in one of the parks?</i></p>	<p>committees to structure this to ensure public safety and health are accounted for.</p>	
<p><i>30. What neighborhood do you live in? Why? Where are your favorite places to spend time in our town?</i></p>	<p>Hilary and I live in the River Drive neighborhood. When we were searching for a home, one was available in this neighborhood. We knew a couple of families on River Drive who spoke highly of it, and that helped us make our decision to buy the home we did. We love how connected our neighborhood is. Neighbors know each other and share their skills, tools, and service with one another. We love all the children and dogs around us, too.</p> <p>I like that Appleton offers so many different kinds of opportunities depending on what you're interested in or in the mood for. Sometimes, I enjoy spending time and working in a coffee shop downtown or by the river. Other times, I want to take a walk through a neighborhood or on the Newberry Trail.</p>	<p>I grew up by city park near downtown area; I've lived by Madison School and also by Huntley School and currently live by USA Sports complex.</p> <p>I love to spend time on the trails, at the farm market and at any given ball diamond. Reid golf course is also a favorite.</p>