

Candidate Questionnaire

Introduce yourself:

Hello, my name is Thomas Krantz, and I am a candidate for a City Council member position. My wife Julie and I moved to Reile's Acres in February of 2019. I work for Sanford Health in the Planning & Construction Department as an Associate Project Manager. I also serve on the M-State Design and Engineering Technology Advisory Committee as Vice Chair. My wife and I have two daughters who are married, and we are blessed to have two wonderful grandchildren.

What inspired you to run for office, and what qualifications or experiences have helped you prepare for this role?

I am a current City Council member and running for re-election. In the last four years, I've been proud to be a member, making financially responsible decisions for the future of Reile's Acres and its residents and to continue taking the city forward with sound management of resources and planning. With my career as an Associate Project Manager in a Planning & Construction environment, I bring the capability of vision for the future planning of the city.

How do you plan to cultivate a sense of community and belonging among residents in Reile's Acres?

The city has experienced growth challenges between the original Reile's Acres neighborhoods through the most recent 9th Addition, and future neighborhoods with the New Haven development. To cultivate that community feeling, continued improvements that span all neighborhoods, whether it be park improvements or community events that have a draw for family engagement, should be a focal point of the City Council as a whole. It is also extremely important to hear the voices and concerns of all residents, equally, and to engage constructively to achieve the common goals for all.

What do you feel sets Reile's Acres apart from other cities in the Fargo/Moorhead metro?

The best attraction to Reile's Acres is the small-town community feel; that sense of community in knowing your neighbors and engaging in that social exchange which brings neighbors together toward common goals for a better living.

What do you feel are the top three challenges facing our city, and what specific plans do you have to address them if elected?

I think that ensuring the growth around Reile's Acres in conformity with our existing development plans is one of the biggest challenges our city faces. As the current Planning & Zoning portfolio holder, I will continue to work to protect our communities' borders from growth via annexation from our neighboring cities, that does not conform with our community expectations. Continuing to work with our neighboring landowners and

having the conversations that encourage them to want to be part of the Reile's Acres community will allow me to help guide the future development of those lands at the owner's decided timeline.

Another challenge is making sound financial decisions that position the city to flourish, even in tough economic atmospheres. By being fiduciarily responsible with taxpayer dollars, I can help promote investments in community services that benefit all residents cost effectively.

Finally, city growth brings challenges: increased work and expenses to develop and maintain streets, parks, drainage, and water resources which requires intentional planning while being fiscally responsible. Addressing this issue, coincides with being financially responsible and I will make sure that we're planning forward and vetting out all options to ensure the best solution is achieved.

Why should voters consider you the most qualified candidate for this position?

The experience I bring from both my professional career and my previous four years serving as a City Council member, I will be able to continue with the best interests of the city and residents at the forefront. I'm not influenced to support ideas that I don't feel are in the best interests of the city, and objectively view the benefit versus reward on issues.