

Bonners Ferry City Council (2 Seats)

	Tony Bates	Adam Bertoldo	Brion Poston	Ron Smith
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	No Response Received	Adam Bertoldo I am running for City Council in Bonners Ferry because I want to help preserve all of the things that make our city great. I have seen how over regulation and ever increasing government at every level is a problem.	No Response Received	No Response Received
2. How could our city be improved? Please provide your top 2-3 ideas.	No Response Received	Here are the top 2 concerns I have heard from residents - The first is the one I am most passionate about and would have the most influence over if elected. A lack of transparency and public input - The City Council has gotten in the habit of voting to suspend the rules on new ordinances, budgets, pay raises, etc. Instead of following the state law which specifies 3 separate readings of an ordinance over 3 separate meetings, the council unanimously votes to suspend the rules, present the item by title only, and immediately pass it with no opportunity for public input, and no discussion among the council members. Votes are almost always unanimous. Unless a matter is unforeseen and urgent, rules should not be suspended. Discussions should be held in public for everyone's benefit. Public testimony should be allowed during item consideration. Second is highway traffic. I would like to see what ideas have come out of city and state research.	No Response Received	No Response Received
3. In your opinion, is growth in North Idaho being handled appropriately?	No Response Received	Yes. Although I am not familiar with all of the inner details. Everyone seems to be cautious about not over extending our resources, mainly water	No Response Received	No Response Received
4. As cities face increasing costs to pay for city services including law enforcement, fire districts, schools and increased traffic due to increased home developments, what are your suggestions so that growth pays for itself?	No Response Received	City residents recently passed a local option sales tax. A big driver of the push to pass was public safety- law enforcement and fire department. As the city grows increased revenue from sales tax and property tax is one way growth would contribute to its own cost.	No Response Received	No Response Received

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5. What improvements should be made to the city council's role in the planning and authorization of new developments?	No Response Received	Not being aware of the city councils specific methods or level of involvement I don't have any specifics. In general I believe in property rights and am opposed to over regulation. If a property owner chooses to develop/build and follows any zoning regulations for their area, authorization should not be a problem.	No Response Received	No Response Received
6. In your opinion, should any services currently provided by the city be cut, eliminated, or privatized?	No Response Received	One area I would consider privatizing is the golf course. Looking at the budget, the golf course appears to be about a break even. Some of the questions I have are- How did the city come to own the golf course? Why would the city own and operate it at a break even? No private investor or company would pay the value of the land the course is on to break even. Could it be sold and the money be put to better use? How many of our city and county residents benefit by using the course?	No Response Received	No Response Received
7. Do you believe access to city managed water and sewer should be increased to rural communities, why or why not?	No Response Received	I would not use the word SHOULD. That makes it sound like a right, when owners buy outside of the city they don't expect water and sewer rights. It COULD be made available if capacity exceeded current and future growth needs and city residents were not taxed more to provide water and sewer outside of the city.	No Response Received	No Response Received
8. How do you plan on keeping a healthy reserve fund without increasing taxes?	No Response Received	Spending should be less than revenues. The role of government is not to provide everything for everyone. We cannot say yes to everyone's idea, project, or want. Debt should be avoided and future projects should be saved for. We know future projects will be coming, we need to save for them or pay as we go.	No Response Received	No Response Received
9. What is your opinion on affordable housing? Is it something that the city should be pursuing?	No Response Received	I have no problem with affordable housing, but the city should not be PURSUING it. As long as we are not subsidizing it (aka helping pay for), and zoning rules are being applied evenly, a private citizen should be allowed to build affordable housing options if they so choose. There is obviously a need in the market. What we do not need is the cycle of government solutions causing more problems, which leads to more government solutions that cause more problems....	No Response Received	No Response Received

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10. All too often local residents feel that their public comment is not taken into consideration when decisions are made that directly affect their daily lives and their property values. What would you do differently to change the public's perception?	No Response Received	This is not just a perception here in Bonners Ferry. Residents are not given much information at meetings, our city council is in the habit of voting to suspend the rules for passing ordinances - ordinances are brought up, rules are suspended, and ordinance is passed in less than 1 minute. No discussions are had and the public is not given the chance to have input. When state rules are followed as intended an ordinance should be presented at 3 seperate meetings before the vote, not brought up and passed immediately. Reading Rules should be followed unless a matter is unforeseen and urgent. Discussion by the council should be held in public to give the citizens more information. Residents should be allowed to testify at time of ordinance discussion.	No Response Received	No Response Received
11. What is your opinion on "Smart Cities" and how they apply to North Idaho?	No Response Received	Social engineering is a bad idea. The smart "experts" who know what is best for us have been harming the American people with their ideas. The founders had it right- Liberty. Letting the "highly educated" dictate the details of how we run our lives will keep us on the wrong path, away from the principles, values, and morals that have made our country great. One only has to look at how the big cities are run. Those of us in North Idaho live here because we want the opposite of a social engineering program.	No Response Received	No Response Received
12. Should the concept of "equitable outcome" be implemented as a part of the city council's decision-making process? Why or why not?	No Response Received	No. What made our country so great, and has kept it there is the American spirit. We work hard to achieve something worthwhile, and to take care of our families and communities. Rewarding sub standard performance and effort destroys personal character and harms our communities.	No Response Received	No Response Received
13. Is there anything in your personal, business, or career life that would be a conflict of interest in your ability to serve the people of this city?	No Response Received	No.	No Response Received	No Response Received

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14. What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	No Response Received	<p>After high school I joined the US Air Force as a fire fighter and served for 6 years, leaving at the rank of Staff Sergeant. I then worked as a city fire fighter and paramedic for 5 years.</p> <p>I left the fire department to start a business and be self employed. I started with small odd jobs as a handyman, worked and learned my way into remodeling, continued to learn and work my way to being a home builder, all over the course of the last 11 years. From the beginning till now I have been the main laborer and I handle my own "office work". Running a business has provided me with many useful skills that would translate over to being part of a council that runs a city.</p> <p>I enjoy being able to help others and have learned the value of working hard. I would appreciate the chance to serve the community and help preserve what makes this area so special for those who live here.</p>	No Response Received	No Response Received