**Sandy Armstrong**

**July 9, 2023**

**City Council Candidate Questions**

1. **Being a member of the City Council requires a significant time commitment, usually 2-4 meetings a month, as well as reading prep prior to meetings. How will this fit in with your other commitments?**

I feel I will have no problem fitting this in with my other personal and professional commitments. In 2017, I went back to school to gain my Masters Degree while working 60 plus hours per week and managing a household of four children and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average. I feel I have excellent organization and prioritization skills.

1. **What do you believe is the role of the City Council in our community?**

I feel that as a City Council member, the role is to be a liaison to the community members while looking out for the best interests of the city of Glencoe. I feel it is the responsibility of the council to spend funds wisely and work to grow the community and sustain business and infrastructure.

1. **Do you think you have any personal or professional relationships that could become a conflict of interest while serving as a Council member?**

No, I do not have any personal or professional relationships that would be a conflict of interest or create any ethical issues.

1. **Upon selection to the Council, what are some of the specific goals that you would like to achieve? What challenges do you anticipate in achieving these goals? How do you plan to overcome these challenges?**

The city of Glencoe is dying and it is very sad and frustrating to see this happen. I have been basically a life-long resident of Glencoe. I remember when I could buy shoes, clothing, craft supplies and etc. in my town in Glencoe. Now, my business is taken else where to get the items I need in communities such as Hutchinson and the metro area. At my previous employer in Waconia, approximately 60-70% of the 500 employees there were from Glencoe because the employment opportunities are limited in the community. Our community needs to grow more businesses and industry to pull interest and population into our community and keep them in our community.

There are many challenges to adding business and industry to the community. One is the lack of available property for businesses to purchase in the down town area as well as the areas just surrounding the community. We cannot attract business and industry if we do not have land and services to offer. Another main issue is funding to develop land to attract business owners.

Overcoming these challenges is not an easy answer. It will require the various community agencies to actually work together toward a common goal and put aside their possible personal opinions.

1. **What do you see at Glencoe’s strengths and areas of improvement and why?**

Strengths:

Glencoe has been a great community to grow up in. I feel the community is relatively safe and displays a clean and well-kept appearance (parks, down town and etc.).

Areas of Improvement:

The community needs to grow and have more to offer to attract individuals to move here. This must happen to keep our community alive. Community agencies need to work together toward the common goal which is supporting the city of Glencoe and its residents.

1. **Why do you want to be a Glencoe City Council member?**

I would like to be a part of keeping my community alive and thriving. I plan to retire in Glencoe, my children plan to live in Glencoe. I don’t want to see my community die off like so many small Minnesota communities.