

Council candidates' backgrounds, ideas vary

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For three years, he was president of the Lincoln Central Labor Union, a parent body of all unions in Lincoln, and he has served on numerous city boards.

Muggy said he is concerned with providing more housing for low-income elderly, beautification of downtown Lincoln and the Lincoln Police Department (LPD).

Loopholes

Too many loopholes in present laws allow too many elderly people who are not low income to obtain low-income housing, he said.

He also said the individual property owner, not the taxpayer, should pay for a majority of downtown beautification.

He said he is concerned with Lincoln's practice of having separate police forces patrol the parks and the city.

"There is too much overlap," Muggy said. "If we had the proper people in the parks, they could create a terrific image with children and become friends so that we'd have a generation growing up respecting the police."

The Council should go outside the city for a new police chief, to get a new man who can change the department and give it a new image, he said.

Social services

John V. King, 61, owner of a hearing aid business, said his main priority is social services.

He said he thinks the Council should investigate and approve the individuals appointed by the mayor for administration of various city departments, low-income housing and the LPD.

He also said the housing authority is not as responsible to low-income persons "in the way it's designed to be" and that Lincoln should be able to have a police department that can "be responsible to human rights and still maintain law and order."

King said the only form of campaigning he has

done is telephoning, and putting a sign on his car.

He said he decided to run for the Council because it has been "sitting on its hands."

Hale Laws, a 47-year-old factory worker, said "I have to work every day to make a living. Sometimes I wonder if the money of my own that I spend for the campaign is worth it."

Laws said his main campaign tactic has been phone calls to friends. He said he plans no major television or radio advertisements.

Unemployment the issue

Laws said an unemployment rate of six or seven percent is too high and is a major issue in the campaign. "Maybe the others aren't as interested, but I think it's very important," Laws said. "I'd like to represent the worker. I can't see squandering tax money if people need something to eat."

The physical growth of the city should be directed to the west and northwest to make the downtown area the center of the city, he said. Transportation and governmental problems would be eased with such growth, Laws added.

Attorney Bruce Douthit, 28, said yard signs, handbills, and speeches have been his main campaign tactics.

Douthit said the two issues mentioned most by citizens are police abuse and city spending.

Budget padding

"I also feel there are some outrageous expenditures and budget padding in the city budget," Douthit said.

He also mentioned downtown and neighborhood development as issues to be considered.

Douthit said he feels he is qualified because of his two and one-half years of service as an attorney for city and county government.

Douthit said he sees no issues that specifically concern students other than possible police abuse.

Jim Carson, a 40-year-old insurance and real estate

broker, said he will spend about \$1,000 on his campaign, mostly for signs and mailing costs.

The main issue, he said, is effective, responsive government. "This encompasses many issues, such as housing, transportation, and downtown development," he said.

What he called the tremendous backlog of business is the main council problem, Carson said. "The council will have to learn to stick to the schedule more," he said. "It has gotten out of hand. Proper management is needed to help clear this up."

Students residents, too

Any issue that concerns the city, Carson said, should also concern students because they are either temporary or full-time residents.

Robert Jeambey, 44, a minister, said he has spent less than \$1,000 on his campaign. He said his campaign has consisted of selective radio and newspaper ads, personal campaigning and some writing by friends.

The completion of the comprehensive plan for the downtown area is the main issue, Jeambey said. He said this plan embraces the problems of transportation and low-income housing for the downtown area.

Executive job

Encroachment on areas of authority of the executive branch of government is the biggest problem facing the council, he said. "If the executive branch doesn't do some of its work, the council wants to get at the problems," Jeambey said. "The council is overloaded already and doesn't have the time or staff to handle executive problems as well."

Housing for students is the main issue facing the council that could involve students, he said. Jeambey said rents have been too high, and there has been a lack of low-income housing. In addition, development of the downtown area would assist students because it is their main shopping area, he said.

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