

Sample Candidate Questions for Municipal Offices

Mayor	What do you see as the greatest challenge facing the city and how will you meet it?	General
Mayor	What can the city do to address the issues of children and families living in poverty and homelessness in the community?	Social Justice
Mayor	As mayor what actions do you support for riverfront development to balance individual enterprise with the protection of the natural resources?	Environment
Mayor	What is the next step in protecting the Wabash River from combined sewer overflows?	Environment
Mayor	What are your thoughts on a Tippecanoe County Food and Beverage tax used to protect the Wabash River and utilize this resource for recreation and economic development?	Tax
Mayor	What is the current status of the Chauncey Hill Mall redevelopment? What are the planned changes and how will this improve the area?	Economy
Mayor	Residents of West Lafayette have differing opinions of the high rise apartments and retail on State Street and on campus. What are the advantages and/or disadvantages of these structures?	Housing
Mayor	What is the current status of the Chauncey Hill Mall redevelopment? What are the planned changes and how will this improve the area?	Economy
Mayor	What stps are being taken to provide low income affordable housing within the city limits?	Housing
Mayor	Assess the recent performance of the [INSERT NAME OF OFFICE] and, if elected, would you keep it on the same direction or change course?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	Given existing budget constraints, how would you stretch taxpayer dollars and still [INSERT GOAL, example: OFFER SERVICES, DETER CRIME, ETC]?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	How can we hire the best? How do we attract really good applicants?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	How would you describe your management style?	Goals /Vision
Mayor	What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking?	Goals Vision
Mayor	What do you see as the Mayor's primary role?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	What is biggest need of the city now and what would you do to fill that need?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	How are you funding your campaign?	About the Candidate
Mayor	Why are you running? (Why did you decide to run?) (Again)	About the Candidate
Mayor	What distinguishes you from the other candidates?	About the Candidate
Mayor	Do you support requiring affordable housing units from residential developers in exchange for zoning variances and tax abatement/tax credit subsidies?	Housing
Mayor	Prioritize the top three issues that (city name) must address?	Goals/Vision
Mayor	What should be done to improve public safety?	Vision
Mayor	How should the mayor's office manage development related to housing, manufacturing, and warehouses?	Economy
Mayor	What three personal/professional skills or strengths make you the best candidate for this office?	Qualifications
Mayor	How would you decrease the level of conflict in city government and increase collaborative problem solving?	Management
Mayor	How should the city prioritize among bikes, busses, cars, delivery vehicles, pedestrians, and scooters?	Planning
Mayor	Given the recent attack here on a woman of Asian descent, what should be done to ensure that all Bloomington residents, particularly those who have been made vulnerable or marginalized, feel safe here?	Diversity
Mayor	What, if anything, should the city do to increase local affordable housing capacity?	Housing
Mayor	What should be the city's role in improving mental health and reducing drug dependence?	Health Care
Mayor	What should the city do over the next two years to decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness in XXXX?	Housing

City Council	What is the greatest challenge facing the city? As a council member how will you address it?	General
City Council	Comment on your expectations and goals for river front development.	Economy
City Council	What is the status of the newly planned jointly shared animal shelter for Tippecanoe County?	General
City Council	What is the current status of the Chauncey Hill Mall redevelopment? What are the planned changes and how will this improve the area?	Economy
City Council	How should the city council manage development related to housing, manufacturing and warehouses?	Housing
City Council	How best can the cities work with the county in developing a sound plan for environmental protections ?	Economy
City Council	What relationship does the City Council have with townships within the city boundary?	General
City Council	Why are you running for a city council position?	General
City Council	When may tax increment financing (TIF) be useful for the city and when may it not be useful?	Economy
City Council	Do you support requiring affordable housing units from residential developers in exchange for zoning variances and tax abatement/tax credit subsidies?	Housing
City Council	What future town developments would you encourage?	Economy
City Council	In what ways can the city council help infrastructure keep pace with the city's rapid growth?	Economy
City Council	In what ways can the City Council advocate for quality affordable housing?	Housing
City Council	What can the City Council do to increase public safety?	Health and Safety
City Council	What three personal/professional skills or strengths make you the best candidate for this office?	Qualifications
City Council	How can the City Council proactively reduce drug trafficking?	Health
City Council	How would you decrease the level of conflict in city government and increase collaborative problem solving?	Management
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City Clerk	From what you know of the current operations of the office of the city clerk, what suggestions can you offer to improve these operations?	General
City Clerk	The city is growing geographically with an increasing population. What impact do you see this growth having on the office of the City Clerk?	General
City Clerk	The Clerk's Office is administrative rather than legislative. Should the Clerk be appointed instead of being elected?	General
City Clerk	Why are you running for this office?	General
City Clerk	How would you improve services for city's residents?	General
City Clerk	Why should the voters choose you instead of your opponent?	General
City Court Judge	From your current understanding of the operations of the office of the city court judge what suggestions would you make to improve these operations?	General
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City Court Judge	What should be the relationship between the Municipal Court, the Mayor and the City Council? How would you deal with any potential conflicts between the three branches of government?	Conflict of Interest
City Court Judge	Municipal Court doesn't have law clerks for the judge. How would you master an unfamiliar area of the law in a relatively short time?	Preparedness
City Court Judge	How would you deal with a pro se party appearing in your court?	Philosophy
City Court Judge	Describe a situation where you had to support a legal position that conflicted with your personal beliefs? Please tell us how you handled it.	Preparedness
City Court Judge	If you were the person responsible for deciding what cases would be tried in what order, how would you split the court's time between the criminal calendar and the civil calendar?	Philosophy
City Court Judge	What approach do you feel is appropriate with a first time DUI offender? An offender with multiple DUI charges?	Philosophy