

# Mayoral Candidate Questions

Rodney Holling

**As an individual seeking an elected seat to represent our community, how will you help to shape a positive, growth-oriented narrative for Hastings?**

I would increase the ability for small businesses to open in our community. In doing this it would be increasing available revenue. We would also look at bringing in family activities that are indoor and can produce revenue all year long, not just seasonal. I would provide a healthy economy and opportunity to residents. It is important to promote economic development and attract investments to our community.

**As an elected leader, how do you feel you can impact the talent availability in our community?**

As an elected leader I feel like I do well with leading. I have opened and grown one of my business from the ground up. I recently opened a new business last year. A good leader is one who recognizes the strengths of people, and can help solve problems. A leader assigns tasks and responsibilities to those that can handle such task. I listen to anyone's problems and concerns and try to figure out ways to solve the problem and address any concerns.

**With regard to a balance between lower taxes and investment in our community, how do you prioritize making realistic choices?**

In regard to a balance between lowering taxes and investment in our community its important to have revenue to help with lowering of taxes. We need to bring in more business in to our community such as restaurants, shopping, and activities for families to do.

**In comparing Hastings to peer communities, how do you feel we can have a more "business friendly" climate?**

In my experience working as a small business owner and talking with other small business owners there is often time too many obstacles with opening and starting a business. It is important for a community to keep up with taxes, innovating, and creating jobs. It is also important for businesses to build relationships with other local businesses in our community.

**Describe your thoughts about the relationship between the position of the Mayor and the City Council. Also, between the City Council and the position of City Administrator and Assistant City Administrator?**

The relationship between the Mayor and city council should be the Mayor to act as a chairman of the board guiding them towards what the citizens of Hastings are wanting. I feel this is important since the cities tax dollars are from the majority of the citizens that live in the community. The City administrator, I feel should be seeking feedback from business owners on how to keep their doors open or with any problems or concerns. City Council and City Administrator and Assistant City administrator should have mutual supportive working relationship to maximize organizational performance, organizational reputation and to value the community.