

Glenwood City Council – Ward 2

Craig Florian

Website: www.facebook.com/craig.florian?fref=ts

Laura Kuhl

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Questions List

Other	Qualifications	Personal Story	Marriage
Biographical	Priorities	Decision Making	Anything else?
Motivation	Eminent Domain	Abortion	

Other - Information about making contact with the candidate.

Craig Florian	10/22 – phoned and questionnaire emailed, 10/24 emailed reminder. 10/26 email reminder to all candidates. Answers copied from email response received October 27, 2015 9:24 AM
Laura Kuhl	10/22 - phoned and questionnaire emailed. 10/24 emailed reminder. 10/26 email reminder to all candidates. 11/10, 6pm, re-sent email questionnaire.

Biographical - Please include biographical information, e.g. family members, church affiliation, employment, etc., you consider important for voters to know and/or reference your website.

Craig Florian	My name is Craig Florian and I am the incumbent candidate running for the Ward 2 Glenwood City Council seat this year. I actually stumbled into Glenwood Politics. As a matter of fact, Ryan Roenfeld represented Ward 1 in 2002 and resigned. I lived on South Chestnut at the time so they asked me to fill out the rest of his term and I agreed. That was early in 2003. I moved into Ward 2 - 4 years ago and have served Ward 2 ever since. I was born and raised in Southwest Iowa. I graduated from Glenwood High in 1986 and graduated from Wayne State College in 1990. My family has run a small business of one type or another in Glenwood since shortly after WWII. My grandfathers owned and operated Craig & Son plumbing until the sixties. Then my family ran "Fabric Land" from 1972 to 1982. And in 1985, I helped open "This 'N That – Quality Resale" which I am proud to say is still in business today, celebrating 30 years of business this week as a matter fact. I still work there when they need me. Hey, it's a family business after all. I always have and always will keep the community of Glenwood first and foremost in my mind. We are Glenwood. Proud. Strong. The best of both worlds.
Laura Kuhl	

Motivation - What has motivated you to seek this office? What do you hope to accomplish?

Craig Florian	After serving on the Glenwood City Council for 13 years now, I have seen many projects and people come and go. But I feel that there is still a lot to accomplish. With the time I have served the City of Glenwood, I have acquired experience, in good times and challenging times, that help me in every decision I make. I am always happy to share what I have learned with other Council members and the City Administration. Together, we come together to make decisions "For the Good of Glenwood".
Laura Kuhl	

Qualifications - What three qualifications do you bring to this office?

Craig Florian	Proven Leadership, 13 years experience and just plain common sense.
Laura Kuhl	

Priorities - What order of priority would you place on dealing with which issues facing the city?

Craig Florian	Always balance our budget, Expand our Tax Base and revenue by way of Annexation and a total review of our Fire Department from the physical building to the governing bodies.
Laura Kuhl	

Eminent Domain - Describe your thinking on eminent domain and private property rights.

Craig Florian	I do not believe that the Government should "take" a private individuals property. They should be offered a fair market price and let the individual decide if they wish to sell their property or not. Annexation is an entirely different issue.
Laura Kuhl	

Provided by



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Personal story - Please briefly describe a situation where you had to stand alone for what you thought was right when the momentum was pushing the other way. What was the result?

Craig Florian

Several years ago, we were facing serious financial issues in regard to funding and upkeep of our City swimming pool, when it was located between 3rd and 4th street along Elm Street. There was a big push to come up with funding to keep it running. Ron Bergeron, the proprietor of the "Playhouse" in Northern Mills County offered us a \$3,000 donation, which we desperately needed. The rest of the City Council at the time voted to not accept the money, but I alone voted to keep the money. Many of the opposition cited moral reasons for not accepting the funding. But I believed that my Bible said to "Love thy neighbor as thyself" and "to treat others how you would want to be treated." I felt he should be treated like any other pool donor, despite the fact he runs a business that some may not approve of. Later, I met with Mr. Bergeron personally and he signed a \$3,000 check that was accepted by the Council. We soon chose to help fund the "Welcome to Glenwood" sign located on the South end of town. Some have said that that sign was built with stripper money, which would be a true statement. And in the words of Paul Harvey, "Now you know the rest of the story."

Laura Kuhl

[Regardless of what office is being sought, we ask the following questions so voters can better predict how you will handle tough issues.]

Decision making - To whom/what will you go for counsel in decision-making?

Craig Florian

Primarily, I listen to what people tell me when I am out and about. I also listen to members of my family who are aware and interested in City Government. We have to be careful of the Vocal minority, which is a group of people I have dealt with for many years. These are people who are very vocal in their opposition to City Government and ideas, but do not represent the opinions of the majority. Many times they simply represent their own interests.

Laura Kuhl

Abortion - What definition do you give for each of these terms: pro-life, pro-choice? How do you define yourself and how did you arrive at that view?

Craig Florian

Pro-Life means what it says "For Life". Pro-Choice means "For Choice". Both of these terms have become synonymous with Abortion. Many years ago, my wife and I were faced with this very decision. We were expecting our first child and through routine testing, it was discovered that our baby had a fatal deformity called "anencephaly". This means that the bones of the skull do not form and the baby has no brain. It is only alive as long as it is connected to the mother through the umbilical cord. We were faced with the toughest decision of our lives. Do we carry a child full term that we know will die within minutes of being born or do we terminate the pregnancy? What would you do?

Laura Kuhl

Marriage - Discuss your response to the Supreme Court's decision concerning gay marriage.

Craig Florian

Our U.S Constitution clearly states that we have the right to pursue happiness. It does not say anywhere that marriage can only be between a man and a woman. And as long as an individual's rights are not infringing on mine, then I don't really have a problem with it. I am more of a "live and let live" kinda person.

Laura Kuhl

Anything else – Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.

Craig Florian

So far, serving Glenwood as a City Councilman has been a learning adventure to say the least. In that time, I have been involved in the completion of the Mills County YMCA, the successful 28E agreement between the City of Glenwood and Glenwood Schools to build a state of the art High School on what was once City Soccer fields. We were able to convert the vacant Latter Day Saint's Church on the square to bring four separate entities under one roof: City Hall, GMU, Chamber and the Police Department. This cut down on upkeep and expense for three different facilities. We got about \$300,000 back from the public auctions of two properties. Yes, it did cost about ½ million to get it done, but it's currently insured for over a million. Doubling the taxpayer's investment? That's what I call good politics and it's what I believe in. "For the Good of Glenwood". No matter how hard it may be.

Currently, Glenwood is building an impressive water park on the east side of town. It was not an easy road, but we're getting it done for our kids and their kids. We were able to get the South corridor replaced from the post office all the way down to the South Hazel Bridge entrance on South Locust on down to the School Bus Barn. And we have done it with relatively little increase in taxes over the past 30 years. In the next four years I hope to Focus on the Future. When I first got here, I believed that one person can make a difference. I still believe that, or I wouldn't be here today. Thank you for your time and consideration to be your representative in Ward 2 on the Glenwood City council "One more time!"

Todd Haggstrom

Laura Kuhl