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Tim Lonergan (Republican)		Question	Aimee Melton (Republican)
1-14-13		Date Filed	2-08-13
3/4/2013, 8:51pm, resident of district caller assigned; 3/6/2013, 8:01pm, emailed questionnaire; 3/6/2013, candidate returned call; 3/7/2013, 10:09pm, candidate sent answers to questions from 2010 Legislature race 3/9/2013, 11:38pm, emailed request for City Council answers; 3/14/2013, 6:33pm, reminder email asking for 3/14/13 deadline; 3/16/2013, 4:27pm, emailed copy of old questions to match the 2010 answers; 3/16/2013, 7:46pm, ANSWERS RECEIVED.		Contact Info	3/4/2013, 8:51pm, resident of district caller assigned; 3/7/2013, candidate returned call; 3/8/2013, 7:24am, emailed questionnaire; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/14/2013, 6:33pm, reminder email asking for 3/14/13 deadline; 3/15/2013, 2:41pm, candidate emailed: "Thank you for your email. I have every intention on completing your survey and have begun the process. You can probably understand that we receive a number of these surveys and I'm trying to complete them in a timely manner in the order that they are received. Because I care deeply for this city, I make sure my answers are complete and thorough. I have already begun answering most of your questions and anticipate completing your survey soon. I appreciate your continued communication and patience as I work diligently through these surveys." 3/30/13, 12:16am, sent "last chance to be included" email. Answers copied from email response received Sat, 30 Mar 2013, 3:37pm. Note: Candidate could have had opportunity to view opponents' responses.
Tim & Marilou Lonergan, 7 kids: Katie, Coleman, Sammy, Emma, Grace, Mary, Timmy JP. I attend St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church. I am self-employed (Lonergan Lawns). I believe the number one issue is keeping taxes low.	01 Biographical	I am 40 years old and married to Scott Melton. We have three sons, ages 19, 12, and 5. We are active members of St. Robert's church. I am a former Deputy Douglas County Attorney and currently am managing partner of Reagan, Melton & Delaney law firm. I grew up in Omaha and attended St. Robert's grade school and Marian High School. My family moved to Illinois for a few years and I graduated from a Sacred Heart school in Chicago. I attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha with a BS in Political Science. I then got my JD from Creighton University School of Law. A complete biography can be found on my web site at www.meltonforomaha.com.	
I have run for the office in the past and still have the desire to serve my community. I will work for the removal of the restaurant tax, and increase public safety.	02 Motivation	Taxes. Our current city council voted for a 15% increase in our property taxes, a 43% increase in the wheel tax, instituted a new restaurant tax and occupational tax. I enjoyed serving the people of Omaha as a prosecutor and decided that this would be a good opportunity to serve the people again. My law partners are very supportive of my campaign and have agreed to allow me to reduce my hours at the firm in order to serve our city.	
I have been an elected member of the Metropolitan Community College Board. I am a small business owner and Veteran. I have the ability to work with individuals with different viewpoints.	03 Qualifications	Former Douglas County Prosecutor; Managing partner of a law firm; Wife and mother who understands the challenges facing Omaha families.	
The city of Omaha should continue to educate and encourage people to recycle (Reduce, Reuse & Recycle).	04 Sustainable Development	City planning regulations should be decided at the local level on what is best for Omaha. I would be concerned with Omaha adopting some international standard that does not take local concerns into account and how it would affect our economy and the needs of our citizens.	
Yes. Getting more dollars back in the hands of the tax payer.	05 City Resources	We need to fix the pension shortfall problem. This is a bill for Omaha taxpayers that is approaching \$1 billion and is already an expensive issue that the city is not addressing. The Planning and Building and Safety Departments need to work better with our builders to make sure the rules for public safety are followed, but that enforcement doesn't place too large of a burden on new construction and remodeling projects.	
Keeping them licensed.	06 Animals	As a dog-owning family ("Charlie" our golden retriever) we love and appreciate companion animals in our family. As I've walked my district listening to citizens, pet concerns have not come as an issue. I'm sure people who use our parks and trails would appreciate it if dog-owners who use those places would make sure they are picking up waste from their pets and disposing of that properly.	
The federal government needs to address this issue and determine an immigration policy. [City role?] None	07 Illegal Immigration	Immigration is a federal government issue and the courts have determined that cities and states can do little to impose more strict immigration laws to deal with the problem. I would not encourage Omaha to become a "safe haven" type of community for illegal immigrants like some cities have done.	
Sometimes it will need to be done for the economic growth of the city, the property owners need to be compensated fairly.	08 Eminent Domain	I believe private property rights are a primary constitutional right for all citizens. Eminent domain should be used only as a last resort when every other option has been explored. As a council member, I would be very hesitant to use that power on our citizens or businesses.	
Give the OPD the tools to do their job.	09 Crime	The police department needs more officers to be trained and assigned to the Gang Unit to track, follow and infiltrate the numerous gangs that exist in Omaha. We also need to coordinate with many of our non-profit organizations that diligently work to provide services to at-risk youth in our community. In addition, we need changes in our juvenile court system to combat the affiliation with gangs by our youth.	
The jobs are there if you want to work. However, good full time work is hard to come by. The city can encourage business to locate to the Omaha area. [Specific ideas?] Keep Omaha business friendly.	10 Jobs	Part of our crime problem extends from a lack of job skills training that used to be provided by our public schools. I am pleased to hear current school board candidates talk about the need to bring industrial arts classes back into our high schools. But we also must do what we can to encourage businesses with good jobs to locate in the sectors where unemployment is higher to make it easier for the people to get to work. Many times transportation issues go along with unemployment issues.	
I would like to have the Mayor have the power to negotiate city contracts. The current situation is wrong.	11 Representative Government	The Mayor and City Council should serve as a check and balance on one another to increase transparency in city government. The "secret salaries" handed out by the current mayor are just one instance where the public had a right to know about those but that information was hidden from them. All city government should do a better job of making their decisions and the processes that go into making those decisions more open and transparent. That will help build the public trust that is missing, to a great extent, from our city/citizen relationship.	

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No	12 City Business Connection	Omaha has a law against a city council member serving in office while having a significant interest in a business that has a contract with the city. I do not personally and do not believe any family member has one either.		
I will vote to rescind the ordinance. [special rights?] Refer to The Civil Rights Act of 1965.	13 Homosexual Ordinance-Omaha	As an attorney and former Douglas County Prosecutor, I worked closely with the victims unit and am aware of all different kinds of abuse people can suffer. There should not be discrimination against anyone in the city of Omaha. I am concerned with creating another special "class" of citizens who would have special and unique rights over other citizens. Creating another special class could increase the number of lawsuits and create expensive and burdensome issues for businesses and employees regarding compliance. I would vote no on that ordinance.		
The Omaha City Charter. [read them?] Some of them back in College. ["uphold Constitution"?] Follow the laws of the Charter.	14 Governing documents	Any elected official must uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Nebraska and the Omaha City Charter and local ordinances, so those would be the governing documents for serving as a council member. "Uphold the Constitution" in my view means to look at the original interpretation of the document by the people who wrote it and apply that interpretation to modern problems and issues.		
I will attend neighborhood meetings, attend local events at schools, remain active in my parish and listen.	15 Constituents' concerns	I have already promised my constituents to put out a quarterly newsletter informing them of upcoming meetings, hearings and events as well as what the city government has been doing for the previous few months. I will continue to attend events and neighborhood meetings in the district. Listening to the citizens is my primary way of campaigning and I believe it's the best way to be a representative for the people while serving them in office.		
They have encouraged me to give back to my community. [affect family?] None	16 Family	My family has been extremely supportive of my decision to run for city council and they are some of the most active volunteers in my campaign. I see serving on the city council as a very high priority for me and my family and will do whatever is necessary to accommodate the new demands of the office.		
I would hope a lot. [counsel?] First my family, and neighbors.	17 Personal/Political	Obviously, as a representative of your district, your own personal judgment comes into play when making decisions. But a good representative will keep in touch with their constituents and make sure they are representing their constituents' views when voting on city issues.		
If it applies to the situation, I would use the Bible as a moral guide.	18 Political decisions	As a life-long Catholic I feel the Bible offers a wide range of teachings and principles on which to base an individual's personal behavior and value system. Of course, I will have those as guidance when dealing with issues of honesty, fairness and right and wrong.		
I believe that a marriage is between a man and a woman. Please respect my opinion.		19 DOMA	I support the Defense of Marriage Act.	
To be Pro-Life means to uphold the dignity of every human person. Pro-choice is really pro-abortion. I am a Pro Life, Republican, Catholic. Life is a gift. [capital punishment?] Capital punishment is not a pro-life issue. It is a criminal issue. It is sometimes (rarely) necessary to protect society.	20 Abortion/capital punishment	I am pro-life and oppose abortion except in the case of saving the life of the mother. I do believe capital punishment is a pro-life issue and it should be abolished. Moreover, the cost of appeals and years of litigation that follow often costs the tax payers more money.		
Obamacare, and Pro-life issues.	21 Past President	I looked at how the candidates stood on dealing with our failing economy, our out-of-control spending at the federal level, their position on raising taxes, their plan for improving the economic environment to create jobs, and their views of keeping America strong militarily in a world that is becoming even more dangerous.		
[not answered]	22 Anything else?	I will listen to my constituents. I also believe I have the education, experience and convictions to make common sense decisions for the city and I am the right choice for a better Omaha.		
married, Spouse: Marilou, #of children: 7, High School: Central High School, College: UNO, Degrees: BS History, BS Education, BS Special Education, Church: St. Elizabeth Ann Catholic, Organizations: Knights of Columbus; Ancient Order of Hibernians	Extra biographical	married, Spouse: Scott, #of children: 3, High School: Woodland's Academy of the Sacred Heart, College: UNO - BS, Creighton University School of Law, Degrees: BS - Political Science, JD - Law Degree, Church: St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic, Professional Associations: Omaha Bar Association, Nebraska Bar Association, Sarpy County Bar Association, Civic Groups: , Organizations: , Employer: Reagan, Melton & Delaney, LLP, www.meltonforomaha.com		

See next page for actual questions asked.

OMAHA MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL Questions

Question Key	Actual Questions asked. “*” questions offered as minimums to answer
Date Filed	The date the candidate officially filed with the County election office.
Contact Info	Contact Information - ranging from the details of when we inputted the candidate's responses, to attempts to establish contact, to if we still need a volunteer caller, to if the candidate is unopposed and therefore not on the list to contact.
01 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.
02 Motivation	*What has motivated you to seek this office? Is there a key issue you hope to address?
03 Qualifications	*What three primary qualifications do you bring to this office?
04 Sustainable Development	* Discuss how the sustainable development presented in the UN Agenda 21 comprehensive plan can be a benefit or detriment to the citizens. What do you believe should be the government's role in establishing green policy?
05 City Resources	*What specific plan do you have for making the best use of taxpayer dollars? For example, what priority would you put on zoning, business incentives, personnel management, etc? Should each year's budget include funding for future retirements?
06 Animals	What are the hot button issues concerning animals/pets in the city?
07 Illegal Immigration	What are your convictions regarding illegal immigration? What role do you believe the city should play in dealing with this issue?
08 Eminent Domain	*Describe your thinking on eminent domain and private property rights.
09 Crime	What should the city do to decrease the consequences of gang violence and other crime?
10 Jobs	Even though the unemployment rate in Nebraska is nearly the lowest in the nation, the unemployment rate for some minorities is excessively high. How can the city help in job creation? What specific ideas do you have for jobs?
11 Representative Government	What do you recommend for efficient interplay of the responsibilities of the executive (mayor) and legislative (city council) branches of city government in serving the constituents each is elected to represent?
12 City Business Connection	Do you, a family member, or your employer have any business relationship serving the city? Please describe.
13 Homosexual Ordinance-Omaha	*If the people's petition to rescind the ordinance giving special rights to homosexuals some day appears on the ballot, how will you vote? In your opinion, what should be required to qualify for special rights?
(These last questions we ask regardless of what office is being sought. You may not think these relate to your office, but how you respond to these controversial questions might help the voter know how you would respond to other controversies in office.)	
14 Governing documents	What do you see as the major governing documents for this position? Have you read them? What does it mean to “uphold the Constitution” in the position you seek?
15 Constituents' concerns	*What plans do you have for remaining aware of your constituents' concerns and desires?
16 Family	What role has your family played in your seeking this office? In holding this position, how do you foresee it affecting your family?
17 Personal/Political	To what degree should an office holder's personal principles be reflected in political decision making? To whom/what will you go for counsel in decision making?
18 Political decisions	Is it appropriate to use the Bible or other religious writings in making political decisions? If so, what would you use? If not, why not?
19 DOMA	The Department of Justice has refused to uphold the Defense of Marriage Act. What is your personal view on this legal irregularity? What is your personal view on the Defense of Marriage Act?
20 Abortion/capital punishment	*What definition do you give for each of these terms: pro-life, pro-choice. Which is your view and to what level of conviction do you hold that view? Some say capital punishment is a pro-life issue. What is your perspective?
21 Past President	*What key considerations did you use in deciding how you voted for President in 2012?
22 Anything else?	Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.
Extra biographical	Biographical information from what candidates provided the Douglas County Election office and/or other web resources. Candidates are asked to email kathy@voterinformation.org if any information is inaccurate. When known, candidate's website is noted.