

# OMAHA MAYOR Part 1 of 2, page 1 of 3

Question		Jim Suttle (Democrat)
Extra biographical	married, Spouse: Deb, #of children: 2, College: West Virginia University, Degrees: B.S. - Civil Engineering; M.S. - Civil Engineering, Church: Dundee Presbyterian, Professional Associations: American Society of Civil Engineers, Civic Groups: Urban League of Nebraska, Benson-Ames Alliance, North Omaha Commercial Club, Downtown Rotary Club, Benson Neighborhood Association, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Western Douglas County Chamber of Commerce, Organizations: Salvation Army Board of Directors, <a href="http://www.MayorSuttle.com">www.MayorSuttle.com</a> , <a href="http://www.OmahaNext.com">www.OmahaNext.com</a> . <b>Date Filed:</b> 2-13-13	
Contact Info	2/28/2013, 4:00pm, caller assigned; 2/28/2013, 5:17pm, office said to send to campaign staff; 2/28/2013, 5:20pm, emailed questionnaire; 2/28/2013, 6:41pm, confirmed received questionnaire; 3/4/2013, 6:50pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/12/2013, 2:26pm, office said would call when hears something; 3/14/2013, 11:22am, emailed campaign manager; 3/18/2013, 9:26am, tried to call - phone number didn't work. After Primary: 4/10 6pm,, told to email campaign manager, 4/10 6:12pm emailed questionnaire. 4/12, 4:58pm left message at office for campaign manager. 4/18, 11:27, office suggested another person to contact. 4/18, 11:53am, emailed questionnaire. 4/29, 8:07pm, office said would try again.	

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Question		Jean Stothert (Republican)
Contact Info	2/28/2013, 4:28pm, Office said to email questionnaire to office; 2/28/2013, 5:02pm, emailed questionnaire; 2/28/2013, 6:28pm, office confirmed receiving questionnaire; 3/4/2013, 6:41pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8; 3/4/2013, 6:45pm, sent reminder email; 3/4/2013, 8:02pm, office said "we'll have it done."; 3/8/2013, 6:48pm, emailed extended deadline to 3/11/13; 3/8/2013, 9:29pm, campaign manager said answers would arrive in the morning; 3/11/2013, 4:10pm, ANSWERS RECEIVED. <b>Date Filed:</b> 2-20-13	
01 Bio-graphical	My website is <a href="http://www.jeanstothert.com">www.jeanstothert.com</a> Please refer to it for further information and my goals and plans as Omaha's 51st Mayor. Married to Joseph for 33 years. Joe is a trauma physician at UNMC. Two children: Elizabeth, age 27, received a BS from Creighton University and an MBA from Bellevue University. Andrew, age 25, received a BS from Nebraska Wesleyan University and is a PhD student at the University of South Florida. Both graduated from Millard Public Schools. Education: B.S. degree in Nursing, Seattle Pacific University. Employment: Over 12 years of experience as a critical care nurse and nursing manager. Head Nurse and Department Head - Cardiovascular Surgery, St. Louis University. Leadership: Omaha City Council - elected May 9, 2009. Serves as Chairman of Public Works Committee, Chairman of Labor Negotiations Committee, member of Parks Committee, member of Public Safety Committee, member of Convention and Visitors Bureau Committee, MAPA Board of Directors. Formerly involved in the Millard Public Schools for over 18 years, including 11 years as a member of the school board, serving on many past and present committees including: District Strategic Planning, P.E. Core Curriculum Committee, Gifted Advisory, Bond Issue Committee, District Key Communicator, Food Service Committee, Millard South Athletic Booster Club, Past President Sandoz PTO and Millard Business Advisory. Community Involvement: Millard Board of Education - Appointed 1997, elected 1998, 2000, and 2004. Offices held: President (3 years), Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Omaha City Council - elected May 9, 2009 - present. University Hospital Auxiliary - 1995-2011, Board of Directors. Faculty Women's Club - University of Nebraska Medical Center. Project Extra Mile. Heartland Family Services Friends Guild. Project Harmony Service League. Clarkson Service League. Metro Omaha Medical Society Alliance. Nebraska Nurses Association. American Nurses Association. Metro Omaha Women's Business Center. Millard Business Association. Millard Rotary. Millard Public Schools Foundation Hall of Fame Award - 2007. St. Andrew's Pointe Homeowners Association. All Saints Episcopal Church. Past member: West Center Optimist Club, HOST Mentor, Omaha Children's Theater Guild, Junior League of Omaha.	
02 Motivation	I'm running for Mayor because Omaha can be better managed. To do that, we need a Mayor who listens, wants to lower taxes, run the city more efficiently and address crime more forcefully. These changes will make Omaha a better place to live, work and raise a family. I have the experience and determination to work with you for a stronger, more vibrant Omaha. The primary issues in my race and the ones that I believe will most greatly impact our city for years to come are: working to repeal the numerous tax increases, reduce city outlays by managing more efficiently, continue to fix union contracts, modernize city government services, regain trust in our next Mayor through greater transparency and being open about all issues, and enhance the safety of our citizens and their property by providing stronger leadership on crime issues.	
03 Qualifications	1. My 14 years of elected public service, both on the Omaha City Council and the Millard School Board, coupled with business and management experience as a hospital department head, provide me the background and experience needed to manage the increasingly complex and important services the City of Omaha provides. 2. My proven track record of working with people, listening to their needs and problems, and then bringing people together will be most beneficial. 3. For the past 18 months, I have served as lead negotiator for the City Council on government employee union negotiations. This experience will prove increasingly valuable as the city works to close a \$600 million public employee pension shortfall, created by past mayors and city councils.	
04 Sustainable Development	Agenda 21 is a non-binding, voluntary implementation plan of the United Nations (UN) regarding sustainable development. Agenda 21 was adopted by a UN conference in 1992 and has since been promoted by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Omaha is listed as a dues paying member of this organization. As Mayor, I will discontinue Omaha's dues membership but will always be interested in reading literature or studies produced by any organization that affect clean, livable cities. I also share the concern of many that those of us in Omaha and Nebraska are able to best manage our affairs without advice, directions or edicts from the United Nations or related organizations. American sovereignty and local control are important to me and I know we get our best ideas from those who live in our own community. The City of Omaha certainly has a role in keeping our city clean and livable through managing our parks and recreational facilities, managing garbage and refuse services, and providing recycling options for our residents.	
05 City Re-sources	Funds are set-aside in each annual city budget to meet the obligations of city employee labor contracts and requirements, including funding for retirement benefits. City government administration continues to be inefficient and antiquated. City government is in need of basic reforms that are standard in the private sector for increasing efficiency and improving customer service, such as performance reviews, audits and customer service benchmarks. City government must be reprogrammed to serve their customers-- just like Omaha's citizens do every day in the private sector. We will review directors' performance every year, and reward city department directors that cut their budgets, run their departments more efficiently, and serve the public better.	
07 Illegal Immigration	Immigration policy has been - and should be - a function of the federal government. Both parties have failed the country by not providing an updated and clear policy that address protected borders, stronger enforcement of our laws and pathways to citizenship in certain cases. This failure has led to difficulty for communities and states in the areas of law enforcement, education, crime, and unnecessary mistrust and typecasting in the community. We deserve more from Congress and we should keep the pressure on them to do their jobs.	

Question	Jean Stothert (Republican)		
06 Animals	We are proud dog owners and we enjoy the companionship Ozzy brings to our family. The City of Omaha is fortunate to have a partner in the Nebraska Humane Society who provides most of the pet licensing and animal control duties in our city. They also provide important spay and neuter services and advice. The Humane Society relationship is important to taxpayers AND pets and I will make sure that relationship is maintained and improved. As a current city council person, I receive constituent calls about aggressive animals, abused animals and animals that are loud to neighbors. I always take those calls seriously and ask the appropriate agency to respond.		
08 Eminent Domain	Eminent Domain is a powerful tool various government entities can use and is available for specific situations for community growth and improvement. While this is an appropriate function of government, it is also one that can be abused. To highest extent possible, private property rights should be preserved and any and all negotiations should be based on landowners getting fair and equitable value for a property, should acquisition by a local or state government entity be required.		
09 Crime	We must get to the root of crime to start addressing the issue head on. That means having a three-pronged approach that focuses on prevention, intervention and prosecution. Keeping kids in school and off the streets will help keep them away from a life of crime. To reduce crime, we need more law enforcement: keep the OPD at full-sworn strength, and work together with local, county and federal agencies. We must develop a true community policing approach that takes cop out of their cars, and gets them into the community, where they can build relationships and develop trust. When a crime is prosecuted, we must make sure the sentence is stiff enough to deter any further criminal activity. Finally, we must make sure we have enough active police officers to address crime across the city.		
10 Jobs	The best approaches for job growth and development are for the city to be a better partner with those who work daily to attract and retain high quality and good paying jobs to the Omaha area, manage job training programs to provide the unskilled or under-skilled with the tools they need to succeed, and work with our public and private K-12 to make sure that youth stay in school and graduate. One of my principle areas of focus as Mayor will be to re-engage our private sector to promote our workforce to companies around the country. We are long overdue for a major employer location to Omaha and/or a significant expansion of an existing local company.		
11 Representative Government	Having served on the City Council for four years now, I have experienced interplay between the executive branch and the legislative branch that has been strained. As Mayor, I will reach out to Councilmembers and their staff to coordinate activities and include them in negotiations and ordinance changes. I will work closely with them as we develop a city budget, building consensus for the conservative changes we need to move Omaha forward. This will include a weekly or periodic standing meeting with Council leadership.		
12 City Business Connection	I am currently a member of the Omaha City Council. My husband is a trauma physician at UNMC, and the volunteer medical director of the Omaha Fire Department, Douglas County 911, and the Epley Fire Department. My daughter is employed by Union Pacific.		
13 Homosexual Ordinance- Omaha	I voted against the ordinance twice, while offering a non-legaling binding alternative resolution. The Omaha group that was circulating petitions to place this issue on the primary ballot has said they will not collect enough signatures, so this issue will not be before the voters this spring. The city ordinance in place now will remain until changed or repealed. I support those circumstances for which discrimination is prohibited as they appear in the Nebraska Constitution.		
14 Governing documents	As a current Omaha City Councilmember, I have of course read, and am familiar with, the Omaha City Charter, and I refer to the Charter often. This document, along with city ordinances and regulations, are the documents that generally govern how the city operates, our structure and restrictions.	15 Constituents' concerns	As I have during my last four years on the City Council, I will meet with constituents in their homes and businesses. My office will be open to the public as it is THEIR office. In addition, I will manage the Mayor's Hotline that results in the fastest and most complete responses possible to constituent inquiry and concerns.
16 Family	My husband Joe and our two grown children have always been a great source of support and inspiration to me. They volunteer and help our campaign frequently. I am so proud of all of them. Part of the reason I want to be Mayor is to improve Omaha so our children - and every young adult - have options to remain in Omaha, work and raise a family. My interest in public service has often been focused on improving family life. I served on the Millard School Board for 11 years during the time our children were students there, to do my part in improving education for them and their classmates.		
17 Personal/Political	Every officeholder has personal preferences, philosophies and principles that shape their opinion and decision-making. As such, that is one of the factors the public should weigh in making a decision on whom to support with their vote. In key decision making situations I will consult members of those groups or organizations affected. I will also consult the city council, our staff and members of the public to gauge their views. These are also many of the ways in which I have reached decisions during the past four years and the City Council.		
18 Political decisions	Many people are, to some degree, guided by the faith choices and experiences they have made and continue to seek. These experiences shape a person's perspective, value system and priorities. While that is true for me, I also believe that government officials should not promote a certain religion in their job of serving all the people in their community, state or nation.		
19 DOMA	Although the question pertains to federal law, I believe an executive branch should uphold and defend a law until the law is changed by the legislative branch or declared invalid or unconstitutional by the courts. My view applies to laws generally, not just DOMA. This question appears on its way to resolution, as the US Supreme Court will hear arguments on certain aspects of DOMA this spring. The law was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton in 1996 and was intended, in part, to preserve states' rights on this issue. A Nebraska version of DOMA was enacted by voters in 2000 with over 70% public support and was then added to our Nebraska Constitution.		
20 Abortion/capital punishment	I regard myself as pro-life and have been endorsed by the statewide pro-life organization in my prior election. In addition, I believe that capital punishment is an appropriate sentence in limited circumstances for only the most heinous of crimes.		
21 Past President	I assessed the performance of the incumbent and the philosophy, experience, and plans of both candidates in deciding whom to support.		
22 Anything else?	Please visit my website at <a href="http://www.jeanstothert.com">www.jeanstothert.com</a> for additional information and issue positions. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming mayoral election. Thank you.		
Extra biographical	married, Spouse: Joseph, #of children: 2, High School: East Alton-Wood River Community High School, College: Seattle Pacific University, Degrees: BS - Nursing, Church: All Saints Episcopal Church, Professional Associations: Nebraska Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, Civic Groups: Metro Omaha Women's Business Center, Millard Rotary, Millard Business Association, Organizations: University Hospital Auxiliary, Faculty Women's Club, Heartland Family Services, Employer: City of Omaha - City Council, <a href="http://www.jeanstothert.com">www.jeanstothert.com</a>		

## OMAHA MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL Questions

Question Key		Actual Questions asked. “*”d” questions offered as minimums to answer	
<b>Date Filed</b>		The date the candidate officially filed with the County election office.	
<b>Contact Info</b>		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.	
<b>01 Biographical</b>	*Please include biographical information, e.g. family members, church affiliation, employment, etc., you consider important for voters to know and/or reference your website.	<b>03 Qualifications</b>	*What three primary qualifications do you bring to this office?
<b>02 Motivation</b>		*What has motivated you to seek this office? Is there a key issue you hope to address?	
<b>04 Sustainable Development</b>		* 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?	
<b>05 City Resources</b>		*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?	
<b>06 Animals</b>		What are the hot button issues concerning animals/pets in the city?	
<b>07 Illegal Immigration</b>		What are your convictions regarding illegal immigration? What role do you believe the city should play in dealing with this issue?	
<b>08 Eminent Domain</b>		*Describe your thinking on eminent domain and private property rights.	
<b>09 Crime</b>		What should the city do to decrease the consequences of gang violence and other crime?	
<b>10 Jobs</b>		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?	
<b>11 Representative Government</b>		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?	
<b>12 City Business Connection</b>	Do you, a family member, or your employer have any business relationship serving the city? Please describe.	<b>13 Homosexual Ordinance-Omaha</b>	*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?
<b>(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.)</b>			
<b>14 Governing documents</b>	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?	<b>15 Constituents' concerns</b>	*What plans do you have for remaining aware of your constituents' concerns and desires?
<b>16 Family</b>		What role has your family played in your seeking this office? In holding this position, how do you foresee it affecting your family?	
<b>17 Personal/ Political</b>	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?	<b>22 Anything else?</b>	Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.
<b>18 Political decisions</b>		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?	
<b>19 DOMA</b>		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?	
<b>20 Abortion/capital punishment</b>		*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?	
<b>21 Past President</b>		*What key considerations did you use in deciding how you voted for President in 2012?	
<b>Extra biographical</b>		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.	