

List of candidates in order of registering to run: Sullivan, Suttle, DeLuca, Stothert, Nabity, Ashford, Welch
Listing of responses provided mostly alphabetically

OMAHA MAYOR Page 1 of 7, Part 1 of 4

Brad Ashford (Nonpartisan)	Question	Jim Suttle (Democrat)
married, Spouse: Ann Ferlic-Ashford, #of children: 3, High School: Westside High School, College: Colgate University B.A., Degrees: Creighton University JD, Church: Augustana Lutheran, Professional Associations: Omaha Bar Association, Nebraska Bar Association, Minnesota Bar Association, Civic Groups: Have been a member of many civic organizations in the last 25 years, Organizations: Nebraska Bar Foundation, Employer: Nebraska Legislature District 20, http://www.bradashford.com/	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, www.MayorSuttle.com , www.OmahaNext.com
2-28-13	Date Filed	2-13-13
2/28/2013, 4:00pm, caller assigned; 2/28/2013, 5:20pm, Office said to email questionnaire to office; 2/28/2013, 6:26pm, emailed questionnaire; 3/4/2013, 6:41pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8/13; 3/8/2013, 11:11pm, emailed extended deadline to 3/11/13; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/12/2013, 12:16pm, emailed extended deadline to 3/16/13 on the weekend; 3/12/2013, 2:00pm, left message with office; 3/12/2013, 2:55pm, office emailed saying they had lots of questionnaires and the candidate's legislative duties made it hard to get them all done.; 3/12/2013, 9:25am, left phone message for campaign manager; 3/12/2013, Morning, campaign manager called - said to call again if candidate gets through the Primary.	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.

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Maura DeLuca (Nonpartisan)	Question	Dave Nabity (Republican)
2-19-13	Date Filed	2-28-13
2/28/2013, 4:00pm, caller assigned; 2/28/2013, 5:37pm, left phone message; 2/28/2013, 5:40pm, emailed questionnaire; 3/4/2013, 8:01pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/12/2013, 2:12pm, left phone message - remind of 3/14 deadline; 3/14/2013, 11:22am, left phone message saying will resend questionnaire; 3/14/2013, 11:30am, emailed questionnaire; 3/15/2013, 5:43pm, email reminder; 3/15/2013, 11:39pm, ANSWERS RECEIVED.	Contact Info	2/28/2013, 5:00pm, left phone message; 2/28/2013, 5:07pm, emailed questionnaire to candidate's website; 3/2/2013, 4:25pm, campaign manager called; 3/2/2013, 4:32pm, emailed questionnaire again; 3/4/2013, 6:46pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/11/2013, 6:20pm, office said proof-reading the answers; 3/12/2013, 11:11am, ANSWERS RECEIVED.
Maura DeLuca, 34, works as an electrical power assembly worker in Omaha, NE. Prior to this DeLuca worked as a welder in Lincoln before running for vice president of the U.S. in 2012. DeLuca joined picket lines of locked out and striking workers from Washington to Montreal. She joined in defending an abortion clinic in Bellevue, NE which like many has been targeted by anti-choice forces.	01 Bio	Omaha has been my home my entire life. I grew up in the Benson area and graduated from Benson High School. My wife, Kim, and I have been married nearly 34 years and have seven children. I attended University of Nebraska Omaha and Grace University. I hold several business certifications from American College in Bryn Mawr, PA. I started my own company when I was 24 years old. Today, Nabity Business Advisors helps family owned companies with financial planning and helps them pass their businesses from one generation to the next. We attend Calvary Chapel West Omaha.
Working people need jobs that provide sufficient income of which there are fewer and fewer here in Omaha, the United States, and around the world. We support a federally funded crash public works program to put millions to work at union scale to build schools, roads, and public transportation. We are for organizing working people to fight for guaranteed unemployment compensation at union scale for all workers until they find a job and to increase the federal minimum wage to union scale. We oppose all cuts in medical benefits for any worker laid off from their job and guaranteed lifetime medical care and retiree pensions for all.	02 Motivation	Omaha is a great city, but we have some problems which are holding us back. I am running for Mayor of Omaha to bring strong business leadership and experience to solve those problems. My goals are: 1. Provide taxpayers with the highest quality government services. 2. Reorganize, streamline and modernize city government so it works better, more efficiently and at a better cost. 3. Modify the current labor contracts to protect the pensions of retirees and current employees and to do so without over-burdening Omaha taxpayers. The current system is broken and must be fixed. 4. Reduce crime and improve our city image. 5. Sell, promote and grow Omaha as a location for more Olympic sports, more and larger conventions, expand business that are already here and bring in new job opportunities. I want Omaha to be a city we can be proud to call home.
[not answered]	03 Qualifications	As the only business person in the race, I bring solid business experience to the Office of Mayor. Since, I am the only candidate who hasn't been in government; I'll have a fresh, new approach. Frankly, business as usual won't solve our problems and I'm not stuck in the attitude of "this is how government works" like so many politicians. I am a person who carefully studies issues and researches to see what other cities are doing to solve their problems. I believe we can learn from their experiences.
The idea that "green" companies will stop or even slow the exploitation of land and labor under capitalism is a fraud. The reasons for the destruction of the common environment that we rely on for food, shelter and our livelihoods is rooted in the profit-driven production under the capitalist system and can only be slowed and ultimately stopped by the revolutionary mobilization of millions of working people in our own interests.	04 Sustainable Development	Private land ownership is what has helped build our nation and I'm opposed to measures limiting land ownership. I believe expanding private homeownership in North and South Omaha would do much to improve public pride and help fight crime. I have very serious concerns about UN Agenda 21 and see it as an attempt to wrestle control of land from private landowners.

Maura DeLuca (Nonpartisan)		Question		Dave Nability (Republican)	
So long as ruling capitalist families hold political power in the united states through the Democratic and Republican parties we will continue to face higher taxes and layoffs and cuts. We reject the fake trade-off between workers' jobs, workers' pensions and higher taxes. It is the labor of working people that creates the massive surplus value that capitalists appropriate and from which they derive their profits and power. Nothing workers get in terms of schooling, medical care, or pensions is charity-it's all produced by us. At the same time, everything we have-above and beyond what bosses must pay in wages to maintain and reproduce the labor power they need to keep production up and profits rolling in-is the product over decades of what working people have fought for, won, and defended in struggle. That, too, comes from nowhere else.			05 City Resources	I will conduct performance audits of all the departments in city government to find areas of duplication, mismanagement, and to find better ways to conduct city business. The results of the audits will give us a blue print to streamline and modernize government so it works more efficiently at a lower cost. I believe this will have a very positive impact on spending. The current pension program will not work and threatens the financial stability of the city. The new fire contracts are only making the problem worse. I will use my business background to work hard to re-solve the problem.	
[not answered]	06 Animals	We are dog and cat owners and believe pet owners need to be responsible.			
We are for immediate legalization of all immigrant workers now without conditions to unify the working class! Attacks on immigrants are aimed at maintaining a permanent category of workers with fewer rights who are more vulnerable to superexploitation. The bosses' goal is to push down the wages, conditions, and confidence of the entire working class-U.S. - and foreign-born.		07 Illegal Immigration	Immigration is largely a federal government issue and will best be handled by securing our borders and providing a reasonable means for legal immigrants to become American citizens. As Mayor of Omaha, part of my responsibility would be to make sure that all residents of Omaha are working productively and contributing to the economy of the city. I recognize that the Federal Government has a completely broken system when dealing with immigration, but this is a national challenge and it is the federal government's role to address and fix the problem. Certainly securing the borders is a necessary first step. That said, there are millions of people already here, with their children, and rounding them up for deportation is simply not going to happen. Therefore, I am in favor of creating a system that accurately identifies those who are here illegally and allows them to earn a living - rather than add more stress to our social safety nets. They are not citizens, but they need to be able to drive, to purchase insurance and certainly to pay taxes. They need to contribute even while their fate is uncertain.		
[not answered]	08 Eminent Domain	I believe it is very important to protect private property rights and that eminent domain should be used sparingly.			
The problem of gun violence, and other violence workers confront, has its roots in the capitalist system and the violence used by the tiny minority of super-wealthy families to maintain their rule here and around the world. The problem of crime in working class communities will be greatly alleviated when we organize a movement in our communities to end the exploitation of the many by the few, growing our self-worth in the process.		09 Crime	I am the only candidate who has released a detailed, multi-page crime plan. It includes a get-tough program to fight gangs. My plan will make it clear that gang members have two choices: Either they remain in the gang in which case we will do all we can to arrest, convict and incarcerate them for as long as possible. For the gang members who want to get out of gangs, we will help them get an education, job training, and to start leading a productive life. There are many more elements to my crime plan which may be read at my website: www.nabilityforomaha.com I have looked at police department programs in cities across the nation and will bring some of their programs to Omaha where I believe they will make a significant contribution to solving our crime problem. We must also do a better job of providing an education and job training programs for young people before they get into gangs.		
We are for a federally funded crash public works program to put millions to work at union scale to build schools, roads, and public transportation. In the city of Omaha, this would mean mobilizing the resources of the city to create tens of thousands of jobs with a livable income.			10 Jobs	I am a businessman who has created jobs. I will work with educational institutions and businesses to help educate our workforce and train them in skills employers are looking for. It will be important to work with businesses so the newly trained employees can be transported to and from their jobs.	
[not answered]	11 Representative Government	I will work with the city council members and have them fully involved in the performance audits of government departments and in developing solutions to our problems. I will make it a priority to keep all the council members informed. I believe it is also important to conduct city business in such a way that the taxpayers trust we are working in their best interests.			
[not answered]	12 City Business Connection			I have no city business connection.	
One of the important results in the national 2012 elections was the victory in four states-Maryland, Maine, Washington and Minnesota-of ballot measures that overturned discriminatory marriage laws based on prejudice against individual's gender or sexual orientation. These results reflect changing attitudes within the working class, striking a blow to a form of prejudice and strengthening workers' unity and capacity to be the standard bearers in the fight against all forms of discrimination.				13 Homosexual Ordinance-Omaha	I believe the ordinance places another unnecessary burden on businesses and I would have vetoed the ordinance if I had been mayor.
[not answered]	14 Governing documents	The governing documents of the City are its Code and Charter. I have not read through all of them, however, I do believe they should be reviewed to make sure that the city of Omaha has not been restricted by unnecessary code restrictions that limit the city's ability to innovate and modernize our methods of managing government. The labor unions have been very crafty at motivating elected officials to adopt language that puts them at an advantage in negotiations in the past. Some city codes are unnecessary and put undue burdens on the business community so I will want to review all of those. Lastly, I do believe we should review the process that gives an employee "Civil Service" status and prevents them from being replaced, even if their performance is poor.			
[not answered]	15 Constituents' concerns	I'm a good listener and will be out in the community regularly at functions, neighborhood meetings and will conduct my own town-hall gatherings. My staff will also be very approachable and I'll be fully accessible and engaged in the issues of the city.			
[not answered]	16 Family	My wife Kim and I have had seven children. Kim and I have been raising teenagers for a very, very long time! All of them that are out of the house with the exception of one who will soon graduate from high school. They are all very supportive, and as you might guess, very busy with their own lives so they attend events when they can. This year, our family will have two weddings, a high school graduation, a son playing football for the Nebraska Cornhuskers with his Spring, Summer and Fall agenda, we have two grandchildren who live here in Omaha, and I have to fit in an election for mayor in the mix. Pray for me...			

OMAHA MAYOR Page 3 of 7, Part 2 of 4 (cont.)

Maura DeLuca (Nonpartisan)		Question	Dave Nability (Republican)
[not answered]	17 Personal/ Political	I believe an individual's personal principles mean everything. We have too many people run and get elected to office who calculate all of their positions on how it affects their electability rather than whether they are following heartfelt principles that must not be violated. Personally, I base a great deal on what I believe are the ethical and moral principles of the Bible and do a lot of praying before I take or promote a position. I also make sure that I am very well researched and clearly understand the best practices and approaches that have been taken by others nationwide. Finally, I maintain a close group of friends that I hold myself accountable to, the first being my wife, who is my best source for reflection and guidance when I am faced with a difficult decision.	
[not answered]	18 Political decisions	I read my Bible every day. Kim and I share devotional time daily. It is my source of wisdom and guidance. I live my life to an audience of one (God) and try to hear His voice as I chart my path for the day. I also study writings from many authors such as John Eldredge, Max Lucado, Patrick Morey, Andy Stanley, John Regier, Chuck Swindoll, Mark Driscoll and many others.	
One of the important results in the 2012 elections was the victory in four states-Maryland, Maine, Washington and Minnesota-of ballot measures that overturned discriminatory marriage laws based on prejudice against individual's gender or sexual orientation. These results reflect changing attitudes within the working class, striking a blow to a form of prejudice and strengthening workers' unity and capacity to be the standard bearers in the fight against all forms of discrimination.			19 DOMA I believe in the sanctity of marriage and believe the nation needs a Defense of Marriage Act.
These are two separate issues. Defending a woman's right to abortion is of decisive importance to the working class. Without the right to decide when or whether to bear a child, women cannot participate as equals in economic, social and political life. And without the fight for women's emancipation, the solidarity the working class needs to fight the bosses-and to wage a victorious revolutionary struggle to take political power out of their hands-is impossible. We are for abolishing the death penalty under capitalism. The death penalty is a weapon of terror aimed at working people. As workers are increasingly forced to organize resistance to employer attacks, the bosses' government will seek to push them back with scabs, stool pigeons, legal red tape and an array of court tactics from injunctions against picketing to "conspiracy" charges to secret "evidence," to the death penalty and violence by armed bodies under the direction of the capitalists' state power.		20 Abortion/ capital punishment	I believe life begins at conception and that all human life must be protected. Therefore, I am against all forms of abortion at any time or event. I do believe capital punishment is a necessary consequence for those who murder or physically harm others. My concern though is that the wealthy can afford the most talented legal minds to allow them to escape the death penalty while the poor cannot. I am very concerned that poor people can be accused of a capital crime and yet be innocent, because they can't afford the best legal counsel. I believe life in prison without parole is an alternative. I haven't fully decided my position and need more information and research to make a final decision.
[not answered]	21 Past President	I gave consideration to the candidates' positions on Taxes, Economic Growth, Defense, Abortion, Marriage, and whether they catered to special interest groups who have no regard for the financial health of the country.	
[not answered]	22 Anything else?	I am the only businessman in the race who has made a payroll and taken the risk to start and grow a business. In addition, I have no political connection to the past policy decisions that are bankrupting our city. All the other candidates signed off on horribly expensive labor contracts or promoted public policy actions that have been harmful to the taxpayers and threaten the financial stability of our city. I will bring a fresh, dynamic approach to leading the city. I will carefully study the best practices being used nationwide and bring the necessary reforms to Omaha to improve the finances, economic opportunity and vibrancy of the city. Please go to my website and study my positions on a number of the issues facing Omaha. Finally, I will do what I say I will do. Omahan's can trust me to be a man of character who will lead this city in a manner that will make them proud. I thank you for your vote.	
Single, Employer: Belcan Tech Services, www.themilitant.com	Extra biographical	married, Spouse: Kim, #of children: 67, High School: Benson High School, College: University of Nebraska @ Omaha; American College - Bryn Mawr, PA; Grace University - Omaha, NE, Degrees: Chartered Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant, LUTCF, Church: Calvary Chapel West Omaha (Evangelical Christian), Professional Associations: AALU, NAIFA, MDRT, Omaha Chamber, Civic Groups: Omaha Chamber, Organizations: Hope Center Omaha, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, Navigators, Christian Business Men's Committee, Employer: Nability Business Advisors, http://nabilityforomaha.com/	

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Question	Jean Stothert (Republican)
Date Filed	2-20-13
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.
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.

Question	Jean Stothert (Republican)
01 Bio-graphical	My website is www.jeanstothert.com 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.
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 Resources	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.
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.
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.
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.

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Question		Jean Stothert (Republican)	
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 www.jeanstothert.com 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, www.jeanstothert.com	

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Mort Sullivan (Democrat)			Question	Dan Welch (Republican)	
2-11-13 - Note: first of mayor candidates to file			Date Filed	3-1-13	
2/28/2013, 4:00pm, caller assigned, 2/28/2013, 5:32pm, emailed questionnaire, 3/1/2013, 3:34pm, emailed old answers from 2010 OPPD race, 3/1/2013, 6:17pm, candidate emailed for more clarification, 3/1/2013, 7:19pm, emailed questionnaire, 3/1/2013, 8:08am, candidate emailed asking for "old" answers., 3/1/2013, 9:51pm, emailed more clarification about distribution, 3/2/2013, Morning, candidate called - spoke for a long time, Questionnaire ANSWERED on the phone.			Contact Info	2/28/2013, 4:00pm, caller assigned; 2/28/2013, 5:08pm, Office said to email questionnaire to office; 2/28/2013, 5:11pm, emailed questionnaire; 2/28/2013, 5:11pm, confirmed received questionnaire; 3/4/2013, 6:48pm, sent publication deadline of 3/8; 3/10/2013, Noon, sent report of extending to March 14 deadline; 3/12/2013, 2:18pm, office said would be checking with campaign staff; 3/12/2013, 5:42pm, ANSWERS RECEIVED.	
Catholic, Retired Consultant, www.MortForMayor.com. Tells about all my past business experiences.	01 Biographical	Family: Single. Parents Larry and Nikki Welch. Four brothers and two sisters. Employment: Attorney and owner of Welch Law Firm. A law firm that was started with my Father and Brother. Education: Graduated from Creighton Prep High School, University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor's degree in political science, Creighton Law School. Church: Mary Our Queen			

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Because the head of the administration of the City of Omaha is really a mess because they would not give a letter telling about our \$100 million dollar development at I-80 and 13th Street, and how great it would be to provide NEEDED JOBS in the City of Omaha. The web site to see that is www.SteamboatPlaza.com .	02 Motivation	As a fourth generation Omahan with deep roots in the city, I care about Omaha's past and its future. I am disappointed with the pettiness in city politics these last four years. When I served as city council president, I brought people of divergent interests together to solve problems. That's what I'll do as mayor. Omaha is at a crossroads. We can either move forward as a city with great job opportunities, our fiscal house in order and violent crime being targeted across the city or we can continue with high taxes, underfunded pension plans that jeopardize our fiscal health and crime rates that no one in the city wants to see. I am running to ensure that our city moves forward as the next great success story.	
Challenge Motivated, Great Salesman, See Omaha developed in the proper way with great planning, and I have part of my staff already picked out, ready to go to work.	03 Qualifications	First is my eight years on the city council including four years as city council president. During that time I worked on a diverse set of issues ranging from budget to economic development, and arts & entertainment to neighborhood needs. Second is my experience as a small business owner. As partner and owner of the Welch Law Firm, I understand what it takes to meet a payroll and the challenges of growing a new business. Third is my track record as someone who can disagree without being disagreeable. To move our city forward, we need leaders who can set aside their personal differences and work together for the common good of Omaha.	
How did they get themselves in this mess? This needs to be stopped immediately.	04 Sustainable Development	I don't support a one-size fits all approach when dictated by the state or federal government, and I certainly don't support mandates imposed by the United Nations. Sustainable development and green policies are best approached with carrots as opposed to sticks. The free market should primarily dictate these issues not costly government regulations that will cost jobs and slow economic growth.	
This city needs more solid organization, and it needs a person who thinks outside the box, like Mort Sullivan, that has the best benefits for the taxpayers. In thinking outside the box, I will have greater business incentives that all the citizens will be able to share, and I will get rid of the City of Omaha Restaurant and Drinking Places TAX.	05 City Resources	As mayor, every day I'll work to protect taxpayers and ensure city government provides services efficiently and effectively. I'll focus the city's spending by setting priorities and cutting spending to keep the tax burden low.	
The animals should all be licensed and contained in a proper area for their best benefit. I am an animal lover and they are my best friends.	06 Animals	Registration, spaying & neutering and dangerous animals.	
The legal immigrants should be allowed a driver's license and illegal immigrants should ask the legal ones how they became legal and then go through the proper process.	07 Illegal Immigration	Immigration is an issue best handled uniformly by the federal government. When Washington DC fails to adequately address the issue, or provide adequate resources to address the issue, it leads to a patchwork of state and local approaches. As mayor, I would oppose efforts to make Omaha a sanctuary city, and would direct Omaha police to work with federal agencies to comply with existing federal laws governing illegal immigration.	
This should not be used by the city of Omaha except where utilities or road ways are affected and no other use for private developments to hurt the homeowners.	08 Eminent Domain	Eminent domain is an authority vested in the city that should be used sparingly and only after good-faith negotiations that respect the fair market value of the property at issue have failed with no viable alternative. Eminent domain should never be the first or second option for acquiring property for public purposes.	
The new mayor should provide jobs in the community. I have a \$100 million dollar development in the northwest corner of I-80 and 13th street (Steamboat Plaza) that we have been working on for many years. This would provide thousands of jobs to citizens, veterans, students, released inmates, and gang members, so that they can have a positive life and support their families with a living wage. Jobs would help in stopping the violence in the community when they can work, and not just shoot at each other on the streets.	09 Crime	I would encourage the Unicameral to enact tough measures that allow entire gangs to be punished for crime perpetrated by individual members. I will also assign another gang specialist and deploy a larger gang force during the summer. Community policing practices which ensure that officers are located in communities in which they grew up is also important because it has built trust between citizens and the police officers. I would also utilize the Ceasefire program that has been used in Boston. This program brought recognized gang members under probation or parole to hear from concerned members of their community. Community service providers would be on hand to provide workforce development alternatives and at the same time it would be communicated that future acts of violence would be targeted and met with tougher sentencing.	
All you have to do is read number 9 [Crime].	10 Jobs	Job creation and economic growth can help address Omaha many of the issues we face as a city. As the next Mayor I will work to make Omaha a more business friendly environment by addressing our pension liabilities, unfunded mandates, improving the infrastructure and reducing the tax burden. But until we address the crime problem in North Omaha, it will be difficult to attract more quality job opportunities to that part of the city.	
We don't have to worry about that right now because they don't do it. I would have a meeting bringing all parties together, and establish some ground rules that will help the City of Omaha continue developing in a proper manner.	11 Representative Government	As mayor, I'll have an open door policy for city council members to meet and work with me on issues big and small facing our city and neighborhoods. We are much more likely to meet the needs of Omaha and its citizens if we're working together as opposed to working separately.	
No, I don't have any family member since I am single.	12 City Business Connection	No.	
No one should have special rights. Need to have more information on the wording.	13 Homosexual Ordinance-Omaha	If the issue was on the ballot, I would vote to repeal the ordinance.	
That is the American way.	14 Governing documents	U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, State of Nebraska Constitution, State Statutes, City Charter, and City Code. I will adhere to the Constitution and all other applicable legal document in governing the city of Omaha.	
I am on the streets every day and know a lot of people and will listen to their needs and opinions.	15 Constituents' concerns	As Mayor of Omaha, I will stay in regular contact with constituents by attending neighborhood and association meetings. I will also ensure that my staff works closely with constituents and make sure that everyone who contacts my office is treated with the upmost respect. I'll have an open door policy, meaning a willingness to meet with any reasonable person regarding any reasonable issue.	

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Mort Sullivan (Democrat)		Question	Dan Welch (Republican)	
No, I don't have any family member since I am single.		16 Family	[not answered]	
I have a solid group of people surrounding me that give me good solid advice, and sometimes I do not like their advice. I always weigh how the outcome will affect everyone before I make my final decision.		17 Personal/Political	An office holder should of course be true to their personal principles in their political decision making. In the mayor's office, I will hire staff and directors with expertise and knowledge in their field. I will also seek counsel from community leaders about issues confronting the city.	
I use my BIBLE on a daily basis and I am lucky enough to be surrounded by pastors in the community, when I seek general advice on different subjects.		18 Political decisions	Moral and ethical decisions often emanate from the Bible or other religious writings. I would rely on my personal moral and ethical code, built on a foundation of biblical study, that informs my decision-making process.	
I need to study this law.		19 DOMA	I support the Defense of Marriage Act.	
I believe that GOD has granted life to every living thing, and we should respect life.		20 Abortion/capital punishment	I am pro-life. I personally don't view capital punishment as a pro-life issue because it involves an individual who has committed a heinous crime deserving of the ultimate punishment.	
The way I vote is for the best man, not the party.		21 Past President	I made my decision after considering the philosophical differences between the candidates and who I felt could best turn this country's economy around and create jobs for the millions of Americans currently out of work.	
I personally went out and got over 1,500 registered voters to sign my petition to enter this race. I was told that number was the largest amount of signatures ever turned in by one person in the City of Omaha. There are so many people that want me to win this race because I do not owe any one any favors and I am my own man! I want to invite everyone to vote for me and be part of my winning team.			22 Anything else?	[not answered]
single, High School: Benson, College: Univ of Nebraska, Degrees: Business, Church: Catholic, Employer: Retired Businessman, www.MortforMayor.com		Extra biographical	single, High School: Creighton Prep, College: UNL, Creighton Law, Degrees: Bachelor of Arts - Political Science, Juris Doctorate, Church: Mary Our Queen Catholic Church, Employer: Welch Law Firm, www.welchforomaha.com	

OMAHA MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL Questions

Question Key		Actual Questions asked. “*d” 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.	03 Qualifications	*What three primary qualifications do you bring to this office?
02 Motivation		*What has motivated you to seek this office? Is there a key issue you hope to address?	
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		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?
14 Governing documents		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		22 Anything else?	Declare anything else you want voters to know about you.
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?	
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.	