

**PLACE 2: KELLER CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS  
FROM HIDDEN LAKES RESIDENTS**

Responses left to right based on order received.

Mark Harness (incumbent)	John Baker	Scott Zang	Kevin Jerome
<p><b>1. Basis of Decisions:</b> Do you think your job as a member of the city council is to do what <u>you</u> think is best for Keller OR do you think your job as member of the city council is to determine and implement the wishes of the Keller citizens?</p>			
<p>As a representative of the citizens it is my responsibility to carefully consider each item brought before the council and to determine and implement the wishes of the residents as long as such decisions can be made within the bounds of city ordinances, as well as state and federal laws.</p>	<p>Listening to the wishes and concerns of the citizens would be one of my primary responsibilities. Citizen input is crucial to any sound Council decision. When two constituencies give opposing input, then I would be called upon to do what is best for all, in my judgment. To implement the wishes of the citizens is the hallmark of our American government since the Declaration of Independence, and should be the hallmark of our city government today.</p>	<p>I think the answer to this question is yes on both accounts. My job as a member of the city council is to ensure that Keller continues to develop and grow, and that is what Keller wants and hopefully what the majority of its citizens wants. I realize that the voters elect a person to serve on the city council and those same voters can fire that person if he/she is not representative of the base. I believe there is NO stronger voice than the people, and they must be heard and responded to.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
<p><b>2. Vision:</b> What is your long-range <u>vision</u> for Keller? How will you work toward that vision, involve the community to reflect the voice of the majority of Keller citizens, involve fellow Council members, and communicate it to all citizens?</p>			
<p>My long-range vision for Keller is to continue efforts to make this one of the best places to live in the United States. Specifically we need Economic Development that will provide additional tax dollars, infrastructure improvements to support our growing population and a more effective way to communicate between our city government and citizens.</p> <p><b>Economic Development</b></p> <p>Our new City Manager has recently hired a top-notch Assistant City Manager to lead in our economic development efforts. Our ability to attract large big-box retailers is hampered primarily because of our lack of suitable vacant property and our proximity to other retail centers like Southlake Town Center and the I35 Corridor. More of our focus should be on regional or small retailers. I believe that the new Assistant City</p>	<p>My long range vision for Keller is an open, inclusive and respectful community that promotes quality, controlled economic development and enhances our parks, trails, and other 'quality of life' attributes. The key to this vision is communication between our council and our citizens. This communication should start in the early stages of any proposed developments. One mechanism for doing this is to have our city staff forward to HOA's any development proposals that are in or near their neighborhoods. This would eliminate 'surprises' and encourage citizen input early in the creative process. Developers would have neighborhood input earlier in this process and could more easily modify or adjust their final product, saving everyone time and money. Another mechanism is to encourage citizen</p>	<p>My long-range vision for Keller is to make this a community where people want to live and stay and raise their families. Keller is at a pivotal point, and has a distinct honor to live up to as being one of the top 50 cities in the U.S. to live. I believe we must settle the divisiveness that exists by governing by democratic rule. To that extent, I believe that all citizens should not only be heard, but listened to when making decisions regarding the community. Trust and communication are quintessential to any relationship. The lack of either breeds all other problems. From a communication perspective, the council can commit to more communication via <i>The Keller Citizen</i>, the City of Keller website, email and town hall meetings. I have experienced, like most of you, that regardless of the outcry of the citizen</p>	

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<p>Manager will look at these issues and work with the council and citizens to contact and attract those businesses that are best suited to Keller's needs. I was the only council member that attended and represented the City of Keller at the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) last year in San Antonio, Texas. I personally made contact with developers and retailers representing Target, Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Chili's, Panera Bread and others.</p> <p>In a few weeks we will be addressing the need for a master plan for the 377 North corridor. A plan is needed to help us attract the most appropriate retail businesses.</p> <p>I believe that we should conduct periodic business forums for business owners/operators/developers to provide them with all of the benefits of locating in Keller and review development/redevelopment guidelines. Getting the city, building owners, business owners/operators, financiers and perhaps the Small Business Administration (SBA) working in unison to help fill some of our empty retail space would be an asset to Keller. I will assist our city staff, in particular our new Assistant City Manager, in developing this forum as he deems appropriate.</p> <p><b>Infrastructure Improvements</b></p> <p>This council has met a number of infrastructure needs but there is more work to be done and we need to finish the job. Besides additional fire stations and the library expansion, I will lead the council in bringing bond proposals to the citizens in November 2008 and 2009. These bond proposals would include additional land and amenities for parks and recreation, storm water drainage improvements, street maintenance,</p>	<p>participation on our boards and commissions. Citizen input helps our city staff and council make decisions that more closely reflect community wishes and desires.</p>	<p>(taxpayer) base, our voices have not properly been represented, despite our best solidarity efforts. The U.S. was founded on the premise of representational government, and at the federal, state and local level, I do not feel like I am properly represented. That is why I am running for city council and bring true representation to local government.</p>	

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<p>sanitary sewer upgrades.</p> <p>I have served as the chairman of the Storm Water Drainage Task Force since August 2007. This task force was formed after I approached the city staff and my fellow council members with the need to address our flooding issues of June 2007. We implemented new policies that are intended to mitigate future damage to public and private property. We have also been able to "fast track" needed repairs in some areas and we are developing a plan for some of the larger improvements.</p> <p>Fire Station #4 has been desperately needed for years. Groundbreaking is expected in the next few weeks. We can't stop there. We have another 900 homes on the drawing board in north Keller. The new citizens in that area of Keller will need and deserve fire protection. We cannot wait as long for the new fire station as we did for fire station #4.</p> <p>Voters approved a modest expansion of the library at its current location. We are moving forward with that project, with the goal of getting biggest bang for the buck.</p> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Communication between city hall and citizens has improved but we have a long way to go. The Mayor's Update, which was recently implemented, is a good start. The redesign of the city website was another good change. A redesign of the "City Page" in the <i>Keller Citizen</i> is needed. In addition to these changes we need Town Hall meetings to exchange information and viewpoints with citizens about significant issues that affect them. We are continually working to be more informative and transparent in our communications with residents.</p>			

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<p>The town hall format provides the best opportunity to receive much needed feedback from residents. When re-elected I will encourage my fellow council members and the staff to hold these sessions</p>			
<p><b>3. Principles/Strategies: What principles or strategies do you think should guide city government and how would that be put into practice?</b></p>			
<p>Local ordinances, state laws and federal laws provide the basic principles for guiding city government. Other principles such as providing exceptional customer service; being open and honest in communication; and being responsive to citizens are personal principles. I believe that a city government should follow the law of the land and go a step beyond to implement these personal principles.</p> <p>This is accomplished by hiring energetic, competent people that share these personal principles. The council hired such a man in Mr. Dan O’Leary. He embodies these personal principles and is modeling them for all city employees. He energizes and expects city staff to go the extra mile for our citizens.</p> <p>The council has identified the strategies for the city. We are focusing on infrastructure. Streets must be maintained, sanitary sewer service must be upgraded and storm water drainage must be improved and maintained.</p> <p>Master plans help us determine how parcels of land can be developed. Studies and focus groups have helped us in determining Library and Parks and Recreation needs and which streets need to be repaired.. We use all of these to develop and define our strategies.</p>	<p>I believe our city government should strive to provide an open and respectful process for all our citizens. This process would allow all constituencies to present their ideas and viewpoints, even those with whom we do not agree. By maintaining respect for citizens, businesses, staff, applicants, etc., we can make better decisions for Keller – improving our community, building infrastructure, increasing the tax base and minimizing our tax rate.</p>	<p>I believe that less government is the best government. If the mayor and council concentrate their efforts on making the community a better place to live by road improvements, spending control, fiscal accountability and responsibility for our tax dollars, then people will be attracted to move here and businesses will knock on our door to become part of our community. The tax base will take care of itself and the infrastructure will be better. We need to make the community friendly to home builders and businesses, and open doors for them versus creating barriers</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob’s responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>

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<p>4. <b>Long Range Planning:</b> How do you view the importance of long range planning for Keller, such as economic development? How would you improve long range planning?</p>			
<p>Long range planning is very important to me. Failure to plan proactively usually leads to indecision, faltering and ultimately failure. This council has comprehensive plans for economic development, residential growth, city services and city infrastructure improvements. Our staff does a good job of planning. Priorities and implementation are challenges for any council. I have accepted that challenge with enthusiasm, and positive results are a matter of record. We will constantly review our plans and make necessary updates and changes.</p>	<p>I think long range planning is key to economic development. By getting citizen input early in the planning stages, staff and businesses will know the types of development that will be welcome in various parts of our city. I would like to see the new council host "town meetings" to get updated citizen input on our planning documents, including the TIF plan. Further, zoning requirements could be amended to encourage the agreed upon use of various tracts of land. To wait to amend these requirements at the last minute contributes to disappointment, frustration and even legal action.</p>	<p>The importance of long range planning is paramount for the future of our community. In the past, the council exhibited short-sightedness in decisions that many of us wish we could turn back the clock and revisit. We must carefully and intelligently consider the long-term affects of our decisions, especially concerning economic development. For example, do we keep a 35,000 square foot building vacant until we find the right match for our city or do we bring in Big Lots? This is the type of decision that deserves more consideration and patience for the long-term benefit of our community. To improve long range planning, we should consider other communities around us, similar in size and demographics, and learn from their decisions and discern what worked well and what did not and why. We can then glean best practices from our neighbors and not duplicate their mistakes. We do not need to reinvent the wheel; we just need to smooth out the angled edges.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
<p>5. <b>Retail/Business Master Plan:</b> What is your position on a detailed retail/business office master plan? How would you incorporate citizen input and communicate that input to the citizens and potential businesses? What specific experience do you have in this area?</p>			
<p>Master planning is essential to any long-term undertaking. We need a map to help us plan our growth and to stay on track. As stated earlier, I would conduct Town Hall meetings or implement a number of task force groups/focus groups to address the needs. Conducting business forums, Town Hall meetings, task force groups, and focus groups are all key elements.  My specific experience regarding master planning</p>	<p>Generally, I would support more planning rather than less. As we defined the detailed use of some areas, we might well prevent a quality development that was close, but not exactly, what we envisioned. For example, an overly detailed plan might eliminate a proposal to build a community college by defining an area office space only. As long as we allow a process for citizen input to make small amendments to our</p>	<p>I support a retail/business office master plan; however, since I moved to Keller, I have seen many good businesses fail within their first year. I believe that we should open doors for the entrepreneurs who want to stake their claim in the American dream. We could do this by giving the building owner a reduced tax so that the tenants won't be priced out of business before they can get</p>	

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<p>includes the last 5 years of my career with GTE/Verizon where I was the director of various groups including business planning and business integration of multiple services. I chair the long-range planning committee in my church. Most important, I have been engaged in long-term planning during my term on the city council.</p>	<p>detailed plan, I would favor this approach. And again, this citizen input should be garnered early in the development process</p>	<p>started. This would attract AND keep more business in Keller. I would encourage and support all citizen input into this matter. My specific experience includes over 10 years of operational and sales management within the retail industry, and I support small business owners in my current job.</p>	
<p><b>6. UDC: What is your opinion of the current Keller Uniform Development Code? What, if any, changes would you advocate?</b></p>			
<p>The UDC is a useful tool that must be updated constantly to reflect the changes in industry and needs of the citizens. The UDC technical review team has done an outstanding job of reviewing the needs of Keller and bringing forth those changes. A set of changes will be coming before the council soon. The most notable change will be with Special Use Permits (SUP). Since the UDC is a living document, proposed changes will continually come before the council for review. The purpose of these reviews will be to increase the UDC's effectiveness as the primary tool in controlling development.</p>	<p>Generally, the Uniform Development Code has more benefits than costs. For example, if this code had been followed when the homes on Darryl and Garden Lanes had been built 25 years ago, the damage after last year's five inch rain would have been much less. We have many neighborhoods in Keller where homes and streets were built with minimal drainage standards. I understand this code is currently being amended to be easier to understand and more logical for the users. This would be a change for the better.</p>	<p>The current UDC is a guide, nothing more, nothing less. It should change as our community changes.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
<p><b>7. Davis Blvd Master Plan: Is there a specific master plan for the development of the Davis Blvd corridor in Keller? If not, what would you like to see happen there?</b></p>			
<p>The Land Use Plan is the only current plan for the Davis Blvd area. The future Land Use Plan indicates that the development in this corridor is retail. Guidelines for all of the business corridors in Keller were incorporated in the UDC in 1998. I would like to see office/retail develop in that area as identified on the Land Use Plan.</p>	<p>There is a future land use plan, but not a specific master plan for Davis Blvd. I do not see this as a huge problem as long as the Council heeds neighborhood and citizen input on specific developments. Further, the UDC allows council discretion over certain high impact uses (such as gas stations). Our current council did not use this opportunity when they approved the QT.</p>	<p>I am not aware of a specific master plan for the Davis Blvd. corridor in Keller. I would like to see zoning that adds value to the area, and I would work with our neighbors to the east, if necessary, to ensure a mutually beneficial plan.</p>	

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<p>8. <b>Citizen Input:</b> What role should citizen input have on proposed and existing projects? For new development proposals, how would you weigh the developer's plans versus significant expression of citizen concerns? Would you try to increase resident involvement and if so, how?</p>			
<p>Citizen input is an integral and critical component of any project. Other than the law, it is the primary consideration in my decision-making. My preference is for citizens and developers to work together to come to an agreed resolution when possible. A good example is the council's work with the Harmonson Farms subdivision and Encana Gas. With the help of the council and city staff, these two entities were able to come to a mutually acceptable agreement regarding the gas well lift station issues. The council encouraged the two groups to get together. The outcome was a win-win for all parties involved.</p>	<p>Citizen input should be significant and early in the process. Again, if the developer makes his plans while receiving citizen opinion, we should end up with a solution that is at least closer to what every constituency would want. I would actively work to increase citizen involvement at every step of the process.</p>	<p>I think this is a perfect opportunity for a town hall meeting for resident involvement. I believe the citizens should have input on proposed and existing projects. For new development proposals, I would make certain that citizens' concerns are addressed first and foremost. There are many developers from which to choose, and I would make sure the developer we choose has the best interests of the community in mind, and if not, bring in the next one.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions</i></p>
<p>9. <b>New Developments &amp; Citizen Input:</b> Please explain your opinion on projects that elicited a large citizen response such as the Quiktrip that was recently built at Bear Creek and Davis, or the Keller Station proposal last year. What are your views on Council decisions in opposition to an overwhelming citizen turnout concerning a particular project?</p>			
<p>I voted against the Quiktrip SUP because it was not the best and highest use of the land and because the citizens of the neighborhood were strongly opposed to it.  Keller Station did not make it to the council for voting. Based on preliminary drawings I oppose the development.</p>	<p>There is an obvious lesson for the Council when a particular project elicits an overwhelming response, and the Council should give this response great weight. I do not believe the use of the land on Davis for the Quiktrip was the highest and best use of this tract. Other projects would have significantly added to our tax base and at the same time met the requirements and wishes of your neighborhood.</p>	<p>When a group of citizens collaborate to ensure their voices are heard, then the council must listen. I have personally been involved with such a collaboration regarding one of the first gas well drilling endeavors within Keller. I remember the disgust I felt suspecting that a decision was made behind closed doors before we arrived and could voice our opinions. At these times, especially the example listed above, I believe a compromise can be reached to bring both sides together. For example regarding the Quiktrip, was the plot of land at the Davis and Bear Creek intersection the ONLY option available? Within the past 18 months, I have noticed 3 lots, comparable in size that could have been utilized by Quiktrip. I think the council exhibited short-sightedness on this one.</p>	<p>.</p>

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<b>10. Housing:</b> How do you feel about multi-family housing and low cost housing projects in Keller in the foreseeable future?			
I am opposed to multi family housing and low cost housing projects in Keller.	I think any community needs a balance of various types of housing. The quality of construction, ownership and quantity are all issues that are legitimate questions for our community. My position is that Keller has <i>enough apartments</i> . We certainly do not want to see an apartment glut that results in substantial lowering of rents. Also, we must look beyond the city limits at nearby apartment projects when considering the appropriate level of multi-family housing in our community. As my website says: "we have enough!"	Keller has enough multi-family housing units, perhaps more than enough. I would not solicit, nor encourage low cost housing projects in the foreseeable future.	<i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i>
<b>11. Apartments:</b> What is your understanding on how the majority of residents of Keller feel about additional apartments in Keller? What is your source of information?			
I have received over 200 emails and have discussed this issue with several residents. The majority of Keller residents that stated an opinion do not want any additional apartments in Keller.	I feel the majority of Keller residents are concerned that the number of apartments is excessive and is too heavily weighted in large projects, particularly in the TIF. My sources of information are the majority of citizens I visit and the Keller Citizen.	I know that the majority of residents oppose additional apartments in Keller. My source of information includes conversations with other citizens in Keller, editorials in <i>The Keller Citizen</i> , on-line postings and the never ending articles regarding overcrowded schools, especially Keller High School.	
<b>12. Apartments:</b> How would you vote concerning new apartments in Keller? What factors would you consider? Would you consider a moratorium for future apartments?			
Based on the overwhelming desire of the citizens of Keller that have expressed an opinion, I would oppose new apartments in Keller. I have proposed a moratorium on future apartments to city staff.	Please see my answer for question number 10. Generally, I would be opposed to apartments.	I would vote against any new apartments in Keller, and would strongly consider a moratorium for future apartments. I would consider the population of the current schools, the potential decrease in property values around the complex, increased traffic flow and the voice of the citizens.	

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<b>13. Keller Station:</b> How would you have voted for the Keller Station development as presented last year? Why?			
I would have opposed it because of the multi family component and the overwhelming citizen opposition.	This project narrowly passed Planning and Zoning, but the current council never saw this plan. Our TIF plan says the area should be predominately nonresidential. One analysis based on square footage of building type puts current residential structures as 55% of the TIF. This appears to be a sound basis for rejection of more apartments.	I would have voted against the proposed Keller Station development last year because of the apartments that were included with the proposal. Regardless of the spin and slick sales pitch, I could see the potential negative impacts on traffic, property values and our schools.	<i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions</i>
<b>14. Town Center Plan:</b> Briefly, what is your understanding of the existing Town Center Plan and do you plan to vote to stay with the retail to residential ratio?			
The Town Center Plan is a mixed-use development; however, originally only the Southeast quadrant was designated for residential development. In 1998 and 2000 the sitting councils expanded the residential (multi-family) development to include other areas of the district. That decision has created a situation where there is more residential development in Town Center than originally planned. Consequently, the original Town Center Concept Plan has been violated. That is why I oppose additional multi-family development in Town Center. All future development should focus on retail/office for the remaining parcels in the district.	I have a general understanding of the Town Center Plan and would certainly work to meet the general relationship of retail to residential goals.	I see the existing Town Center plan as an attempt by the city to grow our tax base and create a draw of more visitors to our community. It is a plan with good intentions; however, I believe we need to create our own identity and not copy our neighbors. Because of short-sightedness in the past, the opportunity for a comparable retail build out that Southlake and Watauga enjoy is in our rear-view mirror. I would like to increase retail business by creating tax incentives for the entrepreneurial start ups and negotiated tax incentives for franchise businesses	
<b>15. Communications:</b> If you are elected, what are your plans for ongoing communications with the citizens of Keller?			
My plans for improving communications with the citizens of Keller are to enhance/redesign the city website, "City Page" in the <i>Keller Citizen</i> , The Mayor's Update; to host Town Hall meetings; to hold forums for business owners/operators; and to conduct informal information gathering sessions. Not only do the citizens need to receive information from the city but the city leaders need input from the	This is a key priority of mine. I think now would be a good time to institute "Town Meetings" and revisit our TIF planning document. Any plan needs updating and revision as the situation changes over the years. Let's address future development in the TIF in the context of the current projects. I would like to see our HOAs kept updated on projects and issues that would	As a member of the City Council, I would continue to support the growth and development of the city's web page. I would continue to support and grow the email communications. I would utilize <i>The Keller Citizen</i> to grow communications and set up town hall meetings that encourages open dialogue.	

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<p>citizens. I always welcome calls from the citizens to my home at 817-909-6997.</p>	<p>affect their neighborhoods directly. An email net managed by our economic development director (new assistant city manager) might be one mechanism to accomplish this. Further, surveys or petitions from neighborhoods on issues that they are concerned with would be welcomed as legitimate expressions of concern. And of course, I would like to encourage direct contact with citizens and HOAs as we work through many of our city's challenges.</p>		
<p><b>16. Public Art: How do you feel about using taxpayer dollars to support public art activities/projects in Keller?</b></p>			
<p>I believe that there should be a reasonable amount of taxpayer dollars budgeted for public art just as there is taxpayer dollars budgeted for parks and recreation. In the 2007-08 budget we approved \$108,000 for public art. At the same time there should be private contributions to the arts. I favor proposals mentioned, such as a check-off on utility bills allowing residents interested in the arts a convenient way of making donations. Another possibility is through a non-profit organization that could apply for grants from the state and federal governments.</p>	<p>I would support a modest art budget for the city of Keller. Of course, this commitment should be balanced with our financial condition, the economy and other quality of life investments we might make in our city. Partnership projects, like the Veteran's Memorial sculpture, that are partially paid for by sponsors, would obviously be more attractive.</p>	<p>I do not support using taxpayer dollars to support public art. I have no problem with using cell phone tower lease fees to fund community betterment projects such as art and trails. I do believe the City Council erred when they combined the Public Arts Fund into the General Fund. I would initiate legislation to make that account separate, as well as create additional separate funds to increase the level of accountability as to how our tax dollars are being spent.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
<p><b>17. Infrastructure Maintenance: What exactly are your plans to provide for ongoing maintenance and improvements for the city infrastructure (potholes, streets, sidewalks, curbing, drainage issues)?</b></p>			
<p>This council has doubled the budget on street maintenance since I was elected two years ago. We have budgeted \$2.3 million dollars in the 2007-2008. I will push to increase that number the next budget year. In the next budget cycle (2008-2009) I will request a new Pavement Condition Inventory (PCI) so that we can identify where the next round</p>	<p>I would continue the present Council's aggressive efforts to maintain and improve our streets and drains. Last May our citizens approved the increase on 1/8% sales tax for street improvement.</p>	<p>I want to add a higher degree of accountability to the Public Works Department. I have personally witnessed wasted man hours in fixing two potholes on my street. The city needs to communicate to the affected residents when and how long they will need to complete a job. Perhaps an</p>	

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<p>of improvements need to be made. The last PCI was done in 2002-2003. This inventory will be used to determine if we are repairing/maintaining streets at a pace that exceeds the rate of deterioration. If needed, I will propose a bond referendum to speed up the repair/maintenance process.</p> <p>Drainage issues are a top priority for me. I chair the Storm Water Drainage Task Force. In 2007 we spent around \$100,000 making emergency repairs for flood mitigation. In 2008 we authorized the expenditure of \$156,000 for other repairs and flood mitigation. We also approved over \$1 million for a new drainage system in the Darryl Lane/Melissa/Garden Lane area that was hardest hit by the 2007 flood. We are in the final stages of determining the cost of projects necessary for a complete solution to the problem. These costs could exceed \$4 million. Included in that \$4 million is an engineering study to identify potential flooding hazards not already documented. This task force also developed two new policies regarding storm water channel maintenance and bar ditch maintenance that did not previously exist.</p>		<p>email account or hotline can be established so that citizens can report specific maintenance needs. I believe we need consistency in our curbing, sidewalks and drainage issues. These concerns are frustrating to many citizens, and this process needs to be managed more effectively.</p>	
<p><b>18. Crime: What plans do you have to maintain the low crime rate in the City of Keller?</b></p>			
<p>My plans to maintain our low crime rate is to make sure that our police department has the appropriate tools, manpower, and training to do their job. I encourage neighborhood participation in National Night Out, Neighborhood Crime Watch programs, and other neighborhood programs. I will propose that we continue participating in grants for special emphasis as we have done in the past. Our police department is second to none and should be commended for their service to our community.</p>	<p>I would continue to ensure adequate funding for our police department (and fire department). From 2001 to 2007, reported crime has decreased from 19.35 to 14.05 per 1000 population. We need to maintain this trend. Public safety and the infrastructure required would be a priority for me.</p>	<p>Keller is blessed with having one of the lowest crime rates in the nation and our police department is nationally accredited. I would suggest we stay the course on this issue.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>

**PLACE 2: KELLER CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS  
FROM HIDDEN LAKES RESIDENTS**

Responses left to right based on order received.

Mark Harness (incumbent)	John Baker	Scott Zang	Kevin Jerome
<p><b>19. Keller HOAs/City Synergy:</b> Since a significant number of Keller citizens reside in HOAs, what are your views how Keller HOAs can work more closely and effectively with the City Council to better understand citizen concerns before making decisions? If so, how?</p>			
<p>I would like to see more interaction between the HOAs (and ultimately all citizens) and the City Council. Town Hall meetings or other meetings with individual HOAs or groups of HOAs would be beneficial. Focus groups are also an excellent source of information exchange for specific issues or concerns.</p>	<p>Again, I would work to ensure earlier and better communication between our city staff and our HOAs on a regular basis. Getting citizen involvement earlier in the process would be emphasized.</p>	<p>Perhaps the city could form an HOA forum once per month, where one representative from each HOA could meet with the council and Mayor and have an open dialogue about the most pressing issues and bring those points for consideration during regular council meetings.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
<p><b>20. Bear Creek Parkway Safety:</b> What plans do you have to ensure safety along Bear Creek Parkway between Keller Smithfield and Davis Blvd?</p>			
<p>Safety is a citywide concern. We have recently installed flashing crosswalk lights at all of the schools in Keller. Crosswalk lights, better signage and striping were installed at Preston and Bear Creek and at the entrance to the clubhouse on Bear Creek. The police department has placed speed devices and patrolmen at or near these two intersections for speed control purposes. If these measures do not solve the problem, then additional steps will have to be taken.</p>	<p>I would support regular traffic flow studies and if necessary, infrastructure modifications to ensure the safety of our children and citizens. Regular police patrols would be a requirement. I would ensure our City Manager and the Police Chief regularly assess safety requirements on Bear Creek Parkway.</p>	<p>My first thought would be to pull our police officers off of 114 and 170 and back into Keller city limits to do more patrolling. My second thought would be to conduct traffic studies, then implement either traffic lights or stop signs at particularly busy thoroughfares.</p>	
<p><b>21. Priorities:</b> What will your priorities be if elected?</p>			
<p>Following are my priorities when re-elected.  <b>Economic Development</b> –Encourage developers, business owners/operators to locate in Keller to increase our tax base. To show them the benefits of locating in Keller  <b>Communication</b> – Improve communication between the citizens and the council through town hall meetings, focus groups, informal discussions,</p>	<p>I would ensure our citizens have access to a responsive and respectful city government that is open to all. Issues that come before the Council should be resolved for the benefit of Keller, and not to satisfy personal political agendas of individual councilmen. We must create a positive environment that will attract quality economic development. We are</p>	<p>My priorities will be fiscal accountability and responsibility. I will eliminate wasteful spending and prioritize and manage to the needs of our infrastructure. I will respectfully challenge any decisions that adversely affect the citizens of Keller. I will work with the council to create tax incentives to spur economic growth. I will work hard to keep</p>	

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<b>Mark Harness (incumbent)</b>	<b>John Baker</b>	<b>Scott Zang</b>	<b>Kevin Jerome</b>
<p>and face-to-face discussions.</p> <p><b>Public Safety</b> – Prepare for additional fire stations and continue to equip our police personnel</p> <p><b>Quality of Life</b>– Complete the Library expansion</p> <p><b>Infrastructure Improvements</b> – Bring bond proposals to the citizens for parks &amp; recreation, street maintenance, storm water drainage and sanitary sewer upgrades as needed.</p>	<p>currently committed to a \$4,000,000 library remodel, a \$4,000,000 fire station and a \$1,000,000 north Keller drainage project. We need <i>additional</i> economic development to help pay the tab.</p>	<p>Keller's identity unique.</p>	

**22. Contributions:** Which contributions to Keller over the past two years are you most proud of?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serving as chairman of the Storm Water Drainage Task Force. This was a personally rewarding contribution because I had the privilege of working with a number of citizens to develop a plan to resolve flooding problems.</li> <li>• Gas wells and high safety standards. This was another personally rewarding contribution. It encompassed working with citizens and the gas well company. With all three groups working together; city, citizens, and the gas well company, we were able to have a win-win outcome to this very volatile issue.</li> <li>• Fire Station #4 groundbreaking. This has been a long time coming. It has been promised to the citizens and the firefighters for over 4 years. It is now becoming a reality. This was one of my 2006 campaign goals.</li> <li>• Library Expansion. After two failed attempts under previous councils, the citizens approved a modest expansion to our library to meet the needs of our citizens.</li> <li>• Street Maintenance Budget. We were able to double the street maintenance budget to \$2.3 million in the two years that I have served on</li> </ul>	<p>When serving on Keller Economic Development Board, I was asked to head up the Public Arts Board. If done correctly, public art can be an important element of an economic development program, as well as contributing to our image and quality of life. As PAB chairman, I worked with volunteers, staff, sponsors, artists and many others to bring nine pieces of sculpture to our city – many donated outright. If elected, I would work to bring this same positive, inclusive and cooperative approach to our City Council.</p>	<p>I spoke out against gas well drilling next to my subdivision, although my side lost, I delivered quality points to the P&amp;Z commission. Right now, my candidacy for City Council is something that I am proud of. It is the opportunity for me to give back to my community and make our town the best that it can be. I work for Manheim in Fort Worth and my wife works for AAFES in Dallas. Our companies do not conduct any business with the city of Keller, and I know that I am running an honest, respectful campaign void of any conflicts of interest.</p>	<p><i>Due to technical difficulties, Kevin Jerome was unable to submit his responses. However, he is running on a ticket with Bob Welch, Place 3, and has asked you refer to Bob's responses which he stated are very similar to his own positions.</i></p>
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<p>the council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We were able to reduce the property tax rate in 2006 and able to keep it at that rate in 2007 at the same time we increased spending on infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p>I have been humbled and honored to represent the citizens of Keller the past two years. I have kept my word and honored the campaign goals of 2006. I ask that you re-elect me to continue to serve you and to move forward with the goals outlined above.</p>			