



City of Grand Haven Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Michael D Fritz

Employer: Fritz Auto Body

**Please feel free to attach a separate sheet if the space provided is not sufficient.*

General

1. What qualifications/experience do you feel you possess that will enable you to fulfill the responsibilities of the elected office you are seeking?

After 14 years on council I feel I have the knowledge and experience to lead this great city. Have proven to move forward and help expand N.O.R.A. as member and chairman. Have over 35 years of operating a business and know how to reach out to people to get things done.

2. Have you ever run for political office before? If yes, please explain.

Yes councilman have been elected 4 terms

3. If elected, what would be your top priorities and why?

My top priorities not in any order would be to keep reeling in our legacy cost, maintain up grading of infrastructure, working with all to expand services as we have so far with the county, schools and local governments

4. What is your vision for the next 10 years for the City and how will your leadership help accomplish that vision?

My vision would be to see our downtown to grow, growth in industry, and continue expansion of the Beechtree corridor. By being involved with as many projects I have, the contacts and great people I feel that I can inspire and get things done

Economic Development, Tax and General Policy

1. As Mayor what do you consider your role in retaining and attracting new business and industry to the City?

My role would be to show and inspire what we have to offer as great schools, excellent recreation facilities, vibrant town, good neighborhoods, great citizens.

2. What is the number one challenge facing business growth and development in the City?

The number one challenge is lack of space, we have all the tools to help but lack space

3. What is the number one area that the City should invest in financially?

Its still the infrastructure with the age of what we have we can not miss a beat on this. we need to continue going forward.

4. Do you support the use of tax abatements and /or special tax incentives to create jobs and spur economic growth? Why or why not?

Since I have been on council I have supported this tool. I have seen what it has done to help our industry to stay competitive. It helps create and retain jobs.

5. As we move to a more regional community and in the face of continued fiscal constraints, what are your thoughts on consolidation of services (police, fire, schools, transportation to name a few)?

We have been doing this for some time now in Grand Haven working with the county, schools, local gov. This is a good move for all.

Talent Attraction

1. Local business and industry has identified that barriers to growth are lack of affordable housing, regional public transportation and qualified employees. As Mayor, what role would you provide in helping to address these issues?

My job would be to help support all efforts for the schools and industry to achieve their goals to assist as much as possible.

Environmental Policy

1. How would you suggest green space be preserved while at the same time sustaining economic development and growth?

first we need to be good caretakers of our environment as we move forward. We have adapted good practices with great planning from our planning commission. By planning right today, tomorrow will be brighter.

Transportation Infrastructure

1. In your opinion, what role do you think local/state government may play in further expanding the regional transportation services throughout West Michigan?

I think it is very important. We need to be looking beyond our borders. By working together things can be accomplished. we need to expand as much as possible. Our role is to encourage and help as much as we can.

Please attach additional information regarding your community and business affiliations.