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**RE: Michael D. Coleman | Poncha Springs Candidate Questionnaire Responses**

1. In a few sentences, please briefly share why you're motivated to run for public office, and why you believe you're qualified to serve in this context. (your response will be printed on the in-person Forum Program).
  - I feel that my career has provided me with the experience and ability to help guide the Town of Poncha Springs as it continues to grow. As a current Trustee of Poncha Springs I believe that we are moving in a positive direction and I hope to be able to continue helping with this transition.
2. I support changing codes and processes towards increased use of Administrative decisions by public sector staff, while focusing public input on changes to the code itself.
  - Strongly Agree
3. Development approval times are:
  - Slow, but necessarily so
4. As you are likely aware, the Chaffee County 2020 Comp Plan stated, "keep the country country and the towns towns". What does this statement mean to you and how would you use this guiding principle in setting land use policy?
  - For me this statement refers to the fact that this is and has always been a rural community. Although there is going to be change, we need to try and keep the small town feeling and the open countryside as intact as possible by limiting the urban sprawl.
5. The Town's government is sufficiently connected to, and collaborative with, the school district.
  - Somewhat Agree
6. How can the Town's government encourage/support/facilitate increasing work-based learning programs for local youth?

- The Town's government can help foster positive learning programs through increased effort to foster youth commissions and councils and for public officials to work toward and to help include youth involvement with various boards and commissions, also helping and reaching out to the businesses that are trying to bridge the gap and help our youth.
7. Passing a local ordinance requiring the installation of broadband infrastructure as a part of all new development is a must.
    - Somewhat Agree
  8. Internet infrastructure should be treated as equally important to other utilities (water, sewer, gas, electricity) in infrastructure projects.
    - Somewhat Agree
  9. What is local government's role in increasing broadband availability and reliability for the community?
    - The local government should help and foster the continued and increasing installation of internet and broadband availability in the community.
  10. [BV/Poncha] has enough water to meet municipal, housing, and commercial development growth.
    - Strongly Agree
  11. In the face of inadequate current water supply Town should...
    - Poncha Springs has a strong water supply not only for the current needs, but for future growth as well
  12. What is the most important next step for Town in regards to water or wastewater?
    - Poncha Springs is well situated in regard to current and future water supply. Wastewater however is another issue. With the current moratorium in place between Salida and Poncha Springs, the ability of the two municipalities to have civil and meaningful conversations and to be able to come to an agreement that can benefit both communities is crucial.
  13. Producing housing that is accessible to our local workforce requires public subsidy in amounts that directly affect affordability levels.
    - Somewhat Agree
  14. Density is directly linked to affordability (i.e. increased density lowers the cost of each housing unit).

- Somewhat Agree
15. Encouraging housing development, including market rate housing, is helpful to the overall health of the housing market and to the community.
- Strongly Agree
16. Housing policy is a local government responsibility.
- Somewhat Agree
17. What specific policy would you change or advocate for that would have a tangible impact on workforce housing if elected?
- I believe that increased density in certain circumstances can help to lower overall costs, the additional ability to build ADU's and to increase the areas that they can be built in could also help.
18. New rules & regulations for environmental sustainability should be weighed against, and modified for, their impact on the health of local businesses.
- Strongly Agree
19. Environmental sustainability is inextricably linked with innovation and technology.
- Somewhat Agree
20. The single most important action [BV/Poncha] can take in 2024 to advance environmental sustainability is...
- To promote energy efficiency, renewable energy usage and to also keep increasing the open space and parks available for all residents to enjoy use of.
21. "Closing question: What question have we not asked that you'd like to share (and answer?)"
- No Response