

## Recently Asked Questions

Campaigns can be messy. People are quick to jump to conclusions, hear what they want to hear, tell lies, and spread lies as truth. Here are some recently asked questions and my honest answers. FACTS are better than fiction and drama. The City of Ward is not a reality show, let's not make it that way. This paper is a work in progress and I'll update it as needed.

**As always, if you have a question or want to confirm or dispel a rumor, please call me at 501-413-9341 or send me an email at [charlie@cgastineau.com](mailto:charlie@cgastineau.com). You can also visit my Facebook page, Gastineau for Ward Mayor, or my website, [www.cgastineau.com](http://www.cgastineau.com)**

1	Are you going to allow city council meetings to be videotaped, shared, etc?	Absolutely! The city doesn't do this currently. Ward is YEARS behind in terms of technology. I'm all for using technology for the betterment of the city. I'll also allow time for public comments at all city council meetings - something the current administration has not done.
2	What's the deal with the tornado sirens in storage?	<p>They need to be scrapped or offered to another community. While we appreciate NLR donating the sirens, those 1950s sirens, which were donated to NLR from LR, had never been operational. As such, the controller boxes were way outdated, and it was not cost effective to replace them.</p> <p>Tornadoes and severe weather are real threats in central Arkansas. Tornado sirens are an effective but expensive solution to notifying the public of threats. I'm all for using technology. IVR phone calls, SMS text alerts, and emergency broadcasts are things I would like to explore adding to the cities notification array, for more than just severe weather but for any and all manners of public notification.</p>
3	Will you be a full time Mayor and will you request a raise?	I will work full time hours, and likely more, both in the offices at City Hall and in the community meetings with city groups and citizens.

		<p>I will not request a raise from the city council. It's their job to make sure the mayor is paid fairly and justly based on the job that he or she does, and how well they do it.</p>
4	<p>Are you going to fire Mark Brooke?</p>	<p>Let me be very clear - <b>I think it is unethical for a Mayoral Candidate to discuss HR issues of the current city staff and their intentions prior to being voted into the position.</b> Doing so opens the city up to a potential wrongful termination lawsuit. I have no intention of firing anyone on the first day of office. If I decide that someone will not be a part of my administration, they will be told before my first day in office that they will not be needed. Arkansas, while an at-will state, still has very favorable labor laws that protect employees from wrongful termination.</p> <p>Having said that, under my administration each employee will be required to sign an Ethics Code of Conduct. This may cause some employees to leave the City immediately. For others, it may cause them to eventually be separated from employment after a proper process of warnings and HR proceedings. For most employees, they will hopefully see their quality of life improve as they are surrounded by more ethical employees, as they treat the citizens and other staff with more kindness and respect, and as they get recognized for great ethical behavior. I promise to hold our employees accountable for their actions... good and bad.</p>
5	<p>Did you have a City Credit Card as Deputy Operations Director and did you abuse it in any way?</p>	<p>Yes, I had a city-issue credit card before I resigned. No, it was never taken away from me. I did not abuse it in any way. Did I have to get permission to buy something with it? Yes, the city has a purchase procedure that requires most purchases to have a purchase request, which has been approved by their department head. If it's over \$500, it has to be approved by the Mayor. Side note, there was no written purchase order procedures in place when I was hired on. Getting procedures in writing and signed by the Mayor was one of the first improvements I implemented.</p>

6	Are you really an OU Fan??	<p>YES!! I was born in Kansas but raised in Oklahoma during the Barry Switzer era. I have a lot of family and friends that still live in Norman and other areas of the state. Yes, I am an long-time OU fan. Boomer!</p> <p>All my kids graduated from ASU Jonesboro, so I'm a Red Wolves fan too! My son-in-law graduated from the U of A, so I also cheer for the Hogs.</p> <p>Basically, I'm a college football fan. I'd love to see ASU and the Hogs play. Talk about a game!</p>
---	----------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------