



2023 LOCAL  
PRIMARY  
CANDIDATE  
INTERVIEW

**BARGERSVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL  
AT-LARGE**



**ROGER D.  
HITZ**  
*Republican*

*Roger D. Hitz*  
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**QUESTION 1:**

**Do you think your main street / downtown is healthy and successful? What would you do to support continued success or help create the change you want to see?**

The Bargersville downtown is small and already well established. The area along the railroad tracks needs to be cleaned up to make the downtown area more attractive.

**QUESTION 2:**

**What are the community's housing needs and how do we address them?**

The town needs more rural residential housing and to slow down the box housing developments until the infrastructure is updated.

**QUESTION 3:**

**If you received a proposal to build a new piece of public infrastructure in your community (road, bridge, trail, etc.), how would you evaluate whether that project was worth implementing?**

I would base it on the need. Also, what impact it would have on the town.

**QUESTION 4:**

**As you evaluate future development projects, what do you think are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives are you most supportive of?**

The type of business, such as restaurants, hotels, retail stores and office space should get the highest consideration. I am most supportive of property tax adjustments.



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**RUTH ANN  
MOORE**  
*Republican*

*Committee to Elect  
Ruth Ann Moore  
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**QUESTION 1:**

**Do you think your main street / downtown is healthy and successful? What would you do to support continued success or help create the change you want to see?**

As with anything else, it can be improved. We have worked hard to bring in new business and better our downtown. In the last few months, we have added a new coffee shop, a pizza restaurant, improved parking area, new lighting, and plans are proceeding for a new gathering place, and the paving and upgrade of an existing parking lot.

**QUESTION 2:**

**What are the community's housing needs and how do we address them?**

Bargersville is a desired community, so we are receiving many opportunities for new housing. We are striving to make a cohesive community with a good balance of homes and businesses.

**QUESTION 3:**

**If you received a proposal to build a new piece of public infrastructure in your community (road, bridge, trail, etc.), how would you evaluate whether that project was worth implementing?**

I would want to see how many people were going to be helped by the project, does it fit within our Comprehensive Plan, and can we afford to do it now.

**QUESTION 4:**

**As you evaluate future development projects, what do you think are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives are you most supportive of?**

I think we should always decide if the development fits the big picture. I am open to any type of incentive that helps to draw new business to our community, however, this needs to be decided on a case-by-case basis.



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**SUSIE  
QUALLS**  
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**QUESTION 1:**

**Do you think your main street / downtown is healthy and successful? What would you do to support continued success or help create the change you want to see?**

When I initially got involved with the Office of Community Rural Affairs (OCRA) and the Bargersville Main Street organization I would visit other thriving, vibrant communities to see how they started redeveloping their downtowns, all the time thinking, "This could be Bargersville."

Once elected I was fortunate to have a supportive Council with a shared vision. In less than four years, we've improved our downtown sidewalks, streets, sewer, water, and added parking and decorative lighting. The additional investment in a connecting trail from Kephart Park to downtown allows residents the opportunity to walk and grab coffee, have dinner, or shop. The new Umbarger Plaza will add green space and provide an excellent location for our community to gather for events and support local businesses.

I will stay connected with IEDC and OCRA to seek out grant opportunities for facade improvement and redevelopment opportunities.

**QUESTION 2:**

**What are the community's housing needs and how do we address them?**

Bargersville is one of the top ten fastest-growing communities in Indiana. This is due to our proximity to the airport and downtown Indianapolis, excellent school systems, and quality of life to raise a family. I see a need for more transitional housing for our seniors, who have raised their families but don't want to maintain a yard or maintenance of a larger home. This issue could be addressed by supporting mixed-use development projects with townhomes or condominiums.

**QUESTION 3:**

**If you received a proposal to build a new piece of public infrastructure in your community (road, bridge, trail, etc.), how would you evaluate whether that project was worth implementing?**

I would first look to see if it fits into the Town's overall vision. Secondly, what's the need and impact on the community? Third, what are the overall costs and return on investment for the Town? Lastly, how does the project impact the quality of life of our residents?

**QUESTION 4:**

**As you evaluate future development projects, what do you think are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives are you most supportive of?**

Economic development is essential for the future of Bargersville. Staying competitive for our I 69 area, downtown, 135 corridor, and light industrial area is vital. Over the last four years, I worked with Baker Tilly, Aspire, and IEDC to set our Town up for future success. The downtown is now an Economic Revitalized Area, which could provide Real property abatement for a new business. The RDC also worked on establishing a facade grant program for downtown. The \$1,000,000 grant recently awarded to Bargersville through the IEDC READI program will provide a Regional Lift Station for White River Crossing.

A community needs to have a variety of incentives for economic development. The incentive offered should depend on the business, the number and quality of jobs, and its overall impact on our community.

I would strongly support incentivizing a new tech park with an educational component leading to quality, high-paying jobs.