

The Garretson Gazette



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Candidates for Ward II City Election in their own words

Elections for the Ward 2 seat of the Garretson City Council will happen on April 9, 2019. Seats held by William Hoskins in Ward 1 and Richelle Hofer for Ward 3 are uncontested. However, Hofer is not seeking re-election, so if she does not accept a re-appointment then the Mayor and City Council will need to appoint a person to that seat.

Tom Godbey has challenged Dwayne Jacobson for his seat on the council and each of them has submitted answers to questions the Gazette posed to them here.

Tom Godbey

First tell our readers a little about yourself?

I am basically a lifelong resident of Garretson. I graduated from the Garretson School in 1968. I have a wife of 37 years, Karla, and three grown children, Danielle, Meghan and Derrick. We have one grandchild, Theo. I am active in St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. I have been a member of local non-profit organizations (St. Rose, Jaycees, Garretson Ambulance, and All School Reunion) and have held the position of president in each of those entities. I am now retired and to keep busy I transport our most valuable assets, our children, for the Garretson School District.

Tell us about your experience with the city government of Garretson?

I'm a past member of the Garretson City Council. I held that position for ten years. For two of those years, I was also the president of the council. I left office with a couple of ideas on the table. One of them was to expand natural gas accessibility south on the Valley Springs road. The other was to expand Main Street south to the branch pile road. I would like to go back to pursuing these ideas.

What do you think are the strengths of the community of Garretson?

Obviously, the parks are a strength for the community of Garretson. Also, we have a strong, very active Commercial Club and a dedicated American Legion Post. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated ambulance crew and fire department. Members of all of these entities are active in other ways in our community

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Dwayne Jacobson

First tell our readers a little about yourself?

I moved to Garretson from Madison in 1974. I was a salesman for 36 years before I retired in 2009. I worked for New York Life, Office Store, Triangle, Midwest Business Products, and Brown & Saeger.

I currently transport students for our school district to Sioux Falls to three different schools and then go back and pick them up in the afternoon.

Shortly after moving to Garretson, I frequently volunteered for things with the city park. Then Mayor Bob Nelson appointed me to fill a vacancy in Ward II on the City Council. I served another full term as a councilman, then ran for Mayor and won. I served one term (2 years) as Mayor, and the reason I didn't run again was, I landed a big account called Citibank which I held onto for 6 years.

Another mayor appointed me to fill a vacant position in Ward II. This happened a few times. I have also run again in Ward II and was elected. I run for the position of councilman because I enjoy serving my community of Garretson.

Tell us about your experience with the city government of Garretson?

My experience is, I have served on our city council many different times during different acting mayors. I also served as mayor of our great city of Garretson.

When I was mayor, we wanted to increase the infrastructure of our city. The council pushed for a new water tower. At the time we had an 80,000-gallon tower underground. The bond issue passed for a Harvestor water

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New emergency director helps county prepare for 100-year record flooding



Minnehaha County Director of Emergency Management Jason Gearman explains a map of how the Big Sioux River will flood near Dell Rapids and explains flood preparations during the commission meeting on March 19.

The Big Sioux River and Splitrock Creek were expected to crest well-above flood stage last weekend in northern Minnehaha County, and the Big Sioux is expected to crest in Sioux Falls this Friday. (Photo by Dave Baumeister)

*By Dave Baumeister
County Correspondent*

SIOUX FALLS – When 26-year sheriff's department veteran Jason Gearman accepted the position as director of Minnehaha County Emergency Management, it's probably safe to say he didn't expect to be dealing with a 100-year flood in his first few months on the job.

Gearman spoke to the Minnehaha County Commissioners on Tuesday, March 19 about preparations underway to deal with rising river levels in the county.



Last week this photo was taken by Heather Gaspar when she walked her dog to Splitrock Park. This is directly in front of the "Old Bathhouse" which serves as visitor's center for Splitrock Park. You can't see it, but there is supposed to be a bench there, which shows the destructive force of the flooding and ice floes. The Tyrrell family had donated the bench in memory of Steve Tyrrell. Grow Garretson and the Parks Board are currently in partnership to raise funds for more benches around Splitrock Park, and will be looking to replace the bench.

He and county sheriff Mike Milstead talked about how high area flood waters could go, the 80,000-plus sandbags the county was receiving, and, Milstead especially, gave a stern warning to motorists

about driving around the various barriers set up around the county.

"It's against the law, and it's also foolish and dangerous," Milstead emphasized at the

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Photo of Splitrock Park by Dave Baumeister