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Subject: Questions from debate
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As promised, here are the questions that were asked at the debate. Thank you again for your participation and congenial attitudes! And let me say I was impressed with how quickly we kept things moving. I was only expecting us to be able to answer 7-10 questions, but we got through 13, and ended the night exactly on time!

1) Brian McHattie has said that, if he is elected mayor, he will ask each newly elected councillor, one on one, what are the councillor's five priorities for their ward. He will then try to work with all the councillors to achieve their priorities. If elected as councillor, what would you tell him are your five priorities for Ward1?

2) Some neighbourhoods in Ward 1 have an abundance of municipal services, while others, such as Ainslie Wood have very little. The city purchase of the Prince Philip School site for a community centre now seems to be at risk. What would you do to provide a community hub for Ainslie Wood, or otherwise rectify the imbalance in services?

3) As our city continues to grow, how would you deal with issues of infill development in our neighbourhood? For example, the 220 Dundurn proposed development, the 95-103 Locke St. S. development, and the proposed student housing on Leland.

4) What will you do to stop absentee landlords from downgrading the quality of our residential community? What plans, if any, would you have to reintroduce a rental housing bylaw?

5) What in your opinion is the priority strategic consideration for Ward 1 and then also for the City of Hamilton and how does your skills and experience contribute to addressing these?

6) How do you plan to fight poverty in Hamilton?

7) Do you support the continuing conversion of one-way streets to two-way streets? If "yes", does this include Main and/or King?

8) Current unfunded liabilities are \$440 million, plus debts and infrastructure costs, for a total debt burden of over \$2 billion. If you are elected, how would you cut expenditures?

9) It is a general concern that after debate, Council will make a decision but instead of supporting the decision with one voice, often Council members continue the debate - where do each of you stand on this issue?

10) Local Improvement Charges (LIC) are presently used by the City of Hamilton to allow the costs of lead-pipe replacement to be financed by the home owner through their property tax bill. In this way rather than a large up-front cost, payments are spread out over time. Toronto and Halifax are presently undertaking pilot projects allowing the same mechanism to be used for energy efficiency retrofits and solar hot water heating. With Hamilton's aging housing stock this mechanism could allow many home owners who might otherwise not have the financial means to improve their home's energy efficiency. Would you support considering a similar expansion of the LIC program in Hamilton to include energy efficiency retrofits?

11) Ward One has been described as underserved for the coming expansion in the number of seniors and retirees in Hamilton. If you are elected what are you willing to do to help meet the health, social and activity needs of Seniors?

12) Do you have a plan for retaining young McMaster, Mohawk, and Redeemer grads in Hamilton?

13) Name one thing Brian McHattie was supportive of that you agree with and one thing that he did or failed to do that you disagree with.

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