

## **Candidate Responses to Community Questions – Matthew Dennis**

### **Why do you wish to serve in the government of Poetry?**

I have deep family roots in Poetry. It is my home and I care a lot about this community. I want to do what I can to keep it a small town community that people want to raise their families in.

### **There will be much to do in the first term for the Mayor and Town Council. What three things do you most hope to accomplish, if elected?**

Make sure the needs/wants of the residents of this community are reflected in the decisions we make as a council.

Make the necessary changes seamless with little impact as possible on residents.

Preserve the small town lifestyle.

### **When you were first considering the possibility of Poetry incorporating, what did you see as the biggest positive from incorporation, and what was your biggest concern?**

To be completely transparent, when I heard that Terrell was trying to annex Poetry, I was glad that Poetry was wanting to incorporate. I also have heard rumors that some are wanting to make Poetry more HOA style where you have to get permission to do things on your own property. That really concerns me about Poetry being incorporated. I am running for council to keep those things from happening. Keeping Poetry's small town life is my goal.

### **What makes you stand out from other candidates?**

My family's deep roots in this community have allowed me to know a lot of the locals. Having a lot of local ties allows me to have a large outreach. These people know that I am transparent, honest, and hardworking. Others that may not know me as well will find out that, I will truly represent them and their best interest.

### **Poetry is currently a very rural area with a "country" lifestyle. How much do you think that lifestyle should be allowed to change, and how would you ensure the town stay within the bounds you would set?**

I moved back out here for the same reason as most of the residents, for the small town life. I will preserve that small town life style. I think all changes, big or small, need to be looked at case by case. However, keeping Poetry "country" was the ultimate goal with incorporating, and I plan to continue that