

**Kevin Yackly – Candidate for Commissioner At-Large
City of Texas City
(May 2022)**

1. If elected, what key competencies would you bring to the position?

I bring a wealth of small business experience to the position of Commissioner-at-Large. After 32 years as a small businessman in Texas City I understand what it takes to run a small business and how important small businesses are for a successful community. I understand how important that we have continual job growth as well as prosperity in our corporate partners. I also understand that the more money that the corporations spend in the community the stronger and more viable small businesses are.

Next, being a small business I know the feeling of how devastating weather can be on our community and small business. I understand by first-hand experience the feeling it's like to stay in town during a major weather experience. I witnessed the horror of the sound of the wind shaking your home and your business as the rain pounds your rooftop. I also witnessed the kindness of citizens offering a helping and sympathetic hand during such events. This experience makes me understand how important well thought out fast acting local authorities are.

I personally have been armed robbed in 5 separate occasions not in Texas City. I know the feeling of having a pistol put at your head and demanding cash. This experience makes me understand how high crime rates can ruin a community. I understand from a citizens and business perspective of how to lower the crime rate. The Police Department cannot solve the high crime rate that Texas City is now enduring. It will take the collaboration of big business, small business, citizens and the City as well as the Police Department to make Texas City safe again.

These are just a few of my key competencies I would bring as a re-elected Commissioner-at-Large. I could fill up several pages if need be.

2. Briefly outline the top issues you feel will be of significant importance in Texas City over the next three to five years.

Some of the top Issues for Texas City, not in a certain order, are:

City growth in older areas and newer areas of town.

Controlling crime and funding our police department to retain officers and make sure they have the newest and most up to date equipment the police department as well as fire would need to prosper.

Building better and up-to-date infrastructure.

Keeping taxes low to lure businesses to Texas City.

Work to assure the prosperity in the petrochemical complex.

Make the Texas City Dike a vacation destination. Change the name of the Dike to a more resort sounding name and have a complete makeover of its looks and facilities.

As an elected official I would want to increase the amount of minority business ownership in our great city. With the help of the state and federal and county agencies we would offer black and brown families a chance at the American Dream.

Keeping Taxes reasonably low and having a plentiful educated workforce will insure local economic positive growth.

Working with the State of Texas and the Federal Government to assure low but safe regulation of our local petrochemical and petrochemical-related businesses. This will assure long term growth.

Bring in new industry so we can diversify our industrial base.

Work with the City of Galveston to learn all aspects of making Texas City a resort area.

Develop all retail business in Texas City.

Redecorate Palmer Highway in Texas City. Make it more resort like.

Continue the mall expansion and make safety a priority.

Continue the development of the Lago Mar area.

Continue growing business on 6th Street.

3. What can you do as an elected official to help small business in the community?

Hire an official from a city like "Old Town Spring" so they would direct Texas City on how to replicate the success Spring has had in development retail and hospitality business areas.

All the suggestions above would help our Texas and Texas City Economy to grow.

4. Any other comments you would like to make?

"I love Texas City" for these reasons: I moved to Texas City with \$50 in my pocket. I built a very successful business which allowed me to meet a local Texas City Gal, get married and start a family, serve my community, start a successful 501(c)(3) charity that serves senior citizens, put my family through college, purchase a home in a desirable area, make lifelong friends, and enjoy the community and everything it offers.

I guess Texas City allowed me to live the "American Dream." Hopefully some of this information will help you in helping the community to get to know me better. When I get re-elected I'll go down to the Chamber, which I have been a member for decades, and enjoy a glass of champagne and will toast our great City.

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