

Wade Menlove

## Meet the candidates night responses

### Who am I and what makes me a good candidate for Mayor/Town Council

My Name is Wade Menlove. I was born and raised in Spring Lake. I'm turning 65 years old this July. I am a retired school teacher. I taught 3rd and 4th grade for 15 years and then worked as Nebo School District's English as a Second Language program manager for 22 years. I married to Tammy Sam from Springville. Her parents are Judge David Sam and Betty Sam Brennan. When Tammy and I first got married we lived in what we called the Byrl Dohahue home, where Mark and Nicole Davis live now. We lived there for a couple years before building our home in Payson. We loved our neighborhood in Payson and had 20 good years there but I always longed to get back to Spring Lake. When the Duell home became available we bought it. It was very run down and much smaller than our home in Payson. Our friends in Payson thought that I had actually lost my mind and told Tammy she should have me checked into a hospital but they did not have the vision I had for this over grown but beautiful place in Spring Lake. Later on we had the great blessing of purchasing the Hofeling home and added an addition and now Ally and Clark live there. I love projects. I love making things beautiful. Most of you are aware that I am part of another project that I think residents of Spring Lake are very excited to watch. Our vision for this project will be another place in this beautiful town of Spring Lake that will add to the charm, and beauty of our town. My pride and love for this community is evident. One thing that qualifies me for Mayor is vision.

We have 7 children, all of whom are married with 24 grandchildren and one that will be born any day in Germany. Our kids love coming home. Every Sunday they come for dinner. They walk around the lake and take my grandkids on rides on the side by side to see the witches house and up to the trout farm and along the canal road and tubing up on Ashton's hill. They come to our trunk or treat and our first annual Easter Egg hunt. They come to Spring Lake days. They love to visit our beautiful little town.

My parents are Robert and Lois Menlove. Dad was born and raised in Spring Lake. His parents are Walter Leo Menlove and Rhea Taylor. Rhea's parents were Samuel Taylor and Minnie Pickering. Samuel was the son of Jesse Soar Taylor who came to Utah with the Martin Handcart company. Taylor Elementary in Payson is named after Jesse and Samuel was the first principal of the school. Walter Leo Menlove was the son of Walter Menlove and Annie Jaspersen. Walter came from England as a teenager. He and Annie lived in the two story home across the street and south of the church.

I know you probably don't really care too much about my family history but it is Spring Lake history and it goes back a long time. My family has a lot of years invested in this town. I am not about to let it fail.

A couple last things that I think make me a good candidate for this office. I have no enemies and I do not expect to gain any. We might have differences of opinions but that does not mean we can't get along and be friends. I am a good listener and I think that I have a personality to solve problems. I can see all sides of the issue and I will be fair. Being our own town does come with some scary thoughts. There will be differences of opinions. I will always listen and I will never go behind someone's back. I will be open and honest and I will vote based on what I truly do believe is best for the people of this town. I see myself as a problem solver and a peacemaker. I am not a politician and I have never done anything like this before. When I was a kid if you asked me if I would ever run for Mayor of Spring Lake I would have replied not in a million years, well at least not in 65 years. I am nervous and even a little scared but I know I have 4 other town council members. I am so excited to have 14 people to choose from and every one of them are totally capable with unique talents and skills to bring to the table. Knowing this puts my mind at ease. I want to thank each of them. Thank you for being willing to put your neck out there, to face some possible tough decisions to help this community stay the place we all love. And I want to say that when I say "this community" I am not just talking about the hay fields and orchards and the lake and the mountains, even though that is part of it, but I am mostly talking about the people who live here. My neighbors and friends.

### My vision of Springlake

I got involved in the process of incorporation because Payson had recently annexed the Zeeman Property. There was nothing we could do about that but it really got me mad when they said they were going to put a road from that new subdivision onto the Trout Farm road. It would have increased the traffic flow on that road and I felt like our small country road would become busy and unsafe for runners, walkers, bikers, horse riders. The county allowed the access road and I felt like we did not have a say in that decision. The only way we could have a say in future developments would be to incorporate. The property above the canal to the south has been annexed into Santaquin and Santaquin's master plan shows a subdivision with a bridge coming over the canal somewhere above Wolsleggers home that will connect to Spring Lake road. Can you imagine a road from a very large subdivision with traffic dumping down onto Springlake road? I want to be able to have a say in those decisions.

I have never been in favor of big government. I don't like people telling me what I can and can't do with my property, on the other hand there does need to be some control. Your neighbor should not be able to put in a toxic waste dump next door, or perhaps high density housing that would put a stress on our roads and make them unsafe for pedestrians. There does need to be some control.

I think we all love living in Spring Lake because of the country feel. It is one of the most beautiful places on earth. On the other hand people with land have the right to do things with their property. I truly do believe that we can work together to allow development that will still keep the small town feel that we all love. We have issues such as water and sewer that might

prohibit growth but we would have that problem whether we stayed in the county or incorporated.

My goal for the next 4 years would be to maintain what we have just as we have it until we get a few years under our belts. One of the last things I want is to have taxes go up. I will do everything in my power to keep taxes where they are. I have to trust the feasibility study that was done as part of the incorporation. It showed that we can maintain our town just the way it is, provide the same services, and collect the same taxes and still have at least a 10% surplus. I say we make this work for the next 4 years and then re-evaluate. Let us get 4 years to establish services, snow removal, road maintenance, fire, and law enforcement. We will create a master plan with zoning ordinances that mirror the current county plan, at least for the short term. We should keep agricultural protections as they are. We can have a say in future developments in Payson and Santaquin that affect our roads and our community. I do not expect any compensation for my time or service. Down the road we could consider paying a stipend to elected officials but for now I personally will not accept any payment

The comment I heard over and over again was “Just let us stay the way we are. Just let us stay in the county.” I propose that we run this town just the way it has been run by the county, at least for the next 4-8 years. As we get established we can consider improvements but only to the extent that taxes do not go up. This is a great community with so many amazing people who are willing to donate time and talents and would suspect that that will continue. We all care about this town and together we can not fail.