1. What is your vision for economic development in the city of Punta Gorda?

One of my goals is to encourage Economic Development in Punta Gorda. I will look at regulations, codes and planning to see if we can streamline and encourage new business. We can be creative to meet the current business environment which is more difficult than a few years ago. I would like to encourage tourism and help develop more access to our Harbor with boat, kayak and paddle board rentals. Locals and visitors would appreciate more restaurants and coffee shops and perhaps a Craft brewery or two to attract the younger generations. We need zoning to include more commercial and mixed use to encourage more businesses to come here. Having created and owned five businesses in the maritime and tourism industry I am well qualified to help encourage business in our Harborside Hometown.

2. What is the city of Punta Gorda's greatest need and how do you plan to address it?

We need to spend valuable tax dollars wisely, to make sure we have good infrastructure, drainage and plenty of fresh water service in order to encourage business. There are also several properties in a state of disrepair that need to be rehabilitated or torn down. Some of these are owned by the city. We must maintain what we own so that it doesn't cost us more to rehabilitate structures due to neglect.

3. Why are you the right choice for City council?

I was in leadership on the Tourism Board and the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee where we designated the use of tax dollars collected by our Waterfront Boutique Hotel on Puget Sound, Washington. As a resident I care about balancing the needs of the community and the cost of living here. Having more businesses would help share the tax burden between property owners and the thriving businesses that I want to help facilitate.