



**Candidate Name:** Tim Noonan

**Office Sought:** Alderman

**Ward:** 19

**Campaign Committee Name:** Noonan For 19

**Campaign Website:** [www.noonan19.com](http://www.noonan19.com)

### **Campaign Finance**

- 1. Running a political campaign is expensive, and candidates without deep pockets or wealthy connections often can't afford to compete. Would you support a public campaign financing program for Chicago city elections, such as a small donor matching or voucher "Democracy Dollars" program? Would you include the new elected school board and Police District Council in a public financing program?**

Yes, we need campaign finance reform. This bar is way too high for citizens to compete. We are doing a disservice to our community by having the bar far too high. Yes, I would include the new elected school board and the police district council too. We do not need any more elected officials beholden to special interests.

- 2. Currently, entities doing (or seeking to do) business with the City are limited to contributing \$1,500 to City officials' campaigns. But the limitation [does not extend to officers](#) or other high-level employees of those entities, who can still contribute thousands to officials making decisions about contracts with their companies. Would you support eliminating this loophole, as [cities like New York](#) have?**

Yes. We need to adhere to the spirit of law as well as the letter.



- 3. Would you support reducing the City's campaign contribution limit from lobbyists and city vendors from \$1500 to \$750 or another number? Feel free to explain.**

Yes. Lobbyists are advocating for a client. We need to remove money from advocacy.

- 4. Do you support any other campaign finance or other reforms that could make the system more transparent and ethical, and make it easier for people of diverse backgrounds to run for office?**

Yes. There are nonprofits in our ward that are used to bankroll elections, but under the guise of youth foundations. We need to limit where and how the money is going to be used. If money is accepted, it should be clear that it will not be used for any direct or indirect campaigns.

## **Elections**

- 1. Ranked-choice voting (RCV) has been adopted around the country as a way of eliminating low-turnout primaries and making elections more democratic. Do you support the adoption of ranked choice voting (RCV) for Chicago's mayoral elections?**

[Click here for more information about ranked-choice voting.](#)

Yes. We need more voices in our choices of mayor.

- 2. Do you support the adoption of ranked choice voting (RCV) for aldermanic and other city offices?**

[Click here for more information about ranked-choice voting.](#)

Yes. We need more voices in our choices of alderperson.

- 3. The petition gathering and challenge process can make it hard for some good candidates to make it onto the ballot. Would you support state-level efforts to reform the system and, if so, what would you propose?**



Yes. The petition process is very onerous and should be reformed.

4. **Proposals to reform the petition process include allowing digital on-site signatures (e.g. HB 4966), online signatures, or instituting a maximum number of signatures per office. What are your thoughts on these ideas?**

I am in favor of proposals that make it easier for our residents to have their voices heard. I am a computer consultant for the last 33 years and believe digital transactions work in banking and most other things in live without an issue, why not with the petition process.

## General

1. **Have you had any past experience with good governance and reform efforts? If so, we're eager to hear about it.**

*Examples of good governance and reform efforts: government transparency and accessibility, ethics, voting and elections, campaign finance.*

I setup FOIA and eDiscovery systems for the federal government for the last 15 years. I am a strong believer in open and transparent government.

2. **Would you support an effort to reduce the size of the Chicago City Council? If so, what is your ideal number of wards/alderpeople? If not, please explain.**

This is a difficult question. I feel that there are far too many alderpersons, but many communities are not getting the support they need. I would have to say, this would need further discussion and how this would be ensuring all of the voices are heard.

3. **Recent news reports assert that some Chicago City Council committees rarely meet and may function more as remnants of a patronage system than as effective governing bodies. In your opinion, should the number of committees be reduced from nineteen? Are there any other reforms to the committee system you would propose?**



Yes, these committees need to serve a purpose. If only meeting a couple times a year, then how can you keep up with the issues that are before the committee. If committee only needs to be met a couple times a year, why bother meeting at all? We need to be sure we are representing our constituents with our time and their money.

- 4. Do you believe that Chicago's mayor and city council must do more to limit "aldermanic prerogative"? Why or why not? If so, what steps do you think should be taken to limit it?**

Yes. The aldermen have put themselves into a simple process and exploited to their advantage. This should not be allowed.

## **Ethics**

- 1. How will you work to ensure city leaders elevate the needs of the public over personal or special interests?**

We need to have participatory budgeting. This will allow the public to have their say on how money is spent. I would encourage any program that allows the community to have their say in how our ward is run. My office would seek answers from the community over personal and special interests.

- 2. Should candidates for mayor have to disclose their tax returns for the past two years?**

Yes. Transparency is key to trust.

- 3. Do you believe the Chicago City Council should become more independent of the mayor? If so, please explain the specific changes you'd like to see.**

Over the years the city council has been a rubber stamp to the mayor. This should end. There is a trail of bad deals by mayors and backed by city council members. I would require enough time to review items that will be considered by the city council. Also, there should be resources to the council members that are



independent to question language and intent on contracts. Alternative proposals should be encouraged and compared when presented to the city council. There are many ways we can make our city work for our constituents, rather than the other way around. It is our duty to pursue them.