Daniel Greery – Justice Party candidate for U.S. Senate

With the national debt at over $16 trillion, and still no budget passed for the last three years, how do you propose bringing spending under control?

Put the elephants in the room in the zoo, very likely jail. Illegal wars cost us dearly in lives, money, and reputation, greatly endangering our own security. Check costofwar.com for a continual update on how our tax dollars are being squandered. Military conversion projects should be high on the list, while maintaining a lean, effective military machine instead of the bloated pork barrel that couldn’t catch a caveman for ten years. We just dumped $2B into a super-spy center in Salt Lake, making us the first target in a nuclear strike. That spy center is largely being used to spy illegally on Americans. The National Defense Authorization Act, along with the misnamed Patriot Act, brings us into the dark shadows of fascism.

Stop giving money to banks “too big to fail.” The CEOs of banks are the main winners here, now on their fourth bailout. Support only banks that help create real jobs and services. Curtail government inefficiency. Reward whistleblowers rather than locking them up. Put a tax on Wall Street speculation. Get money and jobs back in the U.S., the opposite of what Romney and Howell have done or encouraged. The economy can be viewed as our circulation system: You need the right amount of blood in the right places, not stored in pockets where it will cause heart attacks, strokes, and so on. Money sitting in large bank accounts, often offshore, waiting to pry on others “when the market is right,” is most detrimental to the economy, needed jobs, and our crumbling infrastructure and educational system.

• How would you go about stimulating job growth in Utah and the nation?

Support publicly owned utilities that operate at cost, not for profit. Make corporate tax subsidies transparent. Invest in green business by providing low-interest loans, especially small, local companies that keep the wealth circulating in the community. Redirect research funds from fossil fuels toward conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy. Fix the energy grid, presently a disaster and a security problem. Work to eliminate waste and pollution, support sustainable forestry and agriculture. Promote retrofitting, mass transit and clean manufacturing.

Take Wall Street out of the driver’s seat and free up productive segments of working America. Relieve the debt that holds back the economy by reducing homeowner and student debt burdens. Democratize monetary policy. Work toward public control of the money supply and credit creation. Nationalize Federal Reserve Banks, placing them under supervision of the Treasury Department. Regulate financial derivatives and require them to be traded on open exchanges. Support public-owned banks that function as non-profit utilities. Recognize that corporations are not persons, money is not speech.

• The issue of public lands can be a sensitive issue in Southern Utah. Do you support HB 148 and its language telling the federal government to transfer control of public lands to the state? Yes or No, and why?
No. While I have the greatest respect for farmers and ranchers, all too many are not utilizing best farming practices. For example, not employing integrated pest management, destroying critical riparian habitats, overgrazing, treating land like a commodity rather than the living earth that it is. These behaviors are not sustainable and cause destruction of rivers and ultimately the ocean (witness the Gulf of Mexico). Support simple changes that could be made and actually be in the farmers’ and the public’s best interest, along with that of future generations.

• On matters of foreign policy, facets of the public have both supported and decried military action in other nations, particularly the Middle East. Did you support military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and do you believe Iran to be a threat to the national security of the United States?

We are in the Middle East for oil and other resources. With the technology and knowledge we have, and serious political will, we could unplug that connection very rapidly. Meanwhile, we should be paying these people fairly for resources we think we need and treating them with respect. In other words, be a shining light on the hill rather than shining gun barrels and robotic drones all around the world. Iran is not a threat and has long been our ally in many ways. Tens of thousands of them held a candlelight vigil for victims of 9/11, to cite one example. Regarding nuclear weapons, we should begin reducing our own grotesque stockpile, to set an example and work to ultimately remove all nuclear weapons from the planet in decades to come. Please see my website, voteutah.us for my main priorities. I am running on the Justice Party ticket for U.S. Senate.

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