

00:00:09;13 - 00:00:10;10  
Welcome everybody.

00:00:10;10 - 00:00:11;24  
I'm Ogden City Mayor, Ben Nadolski

00:00:11;24 - 00:00:17;03  
And this is the Ogden Way podcast place where we talk  
about our good stories by telling the stories of ordinary people.

00:00:17;12 - 00:00:22;20  
And today we have got a man of Ogden, a man of America.

00:00:22;23 - 00:00:24;01  
I saved that for you.

00:00:24;01 - 00:00:29;10  
I always think of Max Stitzer as a man of America,  
because he's done so much for the United States

00:00:29;10 - 00:00:31;15  
of America, for the country, and for the world.

00:00:31;15 - 00:00:35;05  
But when you break it down, you're an Ogden boy, right?

00:00:35;05 - 00:00:37;20  
Born and raised. Yes, sir.

00:00:37;20 - 00:00:39;06  
Hagens proud of you.

00:00:39;06 - 00:00:43;16  
Big time. And I think more people need to know about you.

00:00:43;16 - 00:00:45;29  
And not because I know.

00:00:45;29 - 00:00:48;06  
I know, you're not the kind of guy that brags.

00:00:48;06 - 00:00:52;06  
You're a humble man, but you've done a lot for the for the U.S.

00:00:52;06 - 00:00:54;09  
and for the world. And you've made Ogden proud.

00:00:56;04 - 00:01:01:08  
Are you willing to brag a little bit about yourself,  
or at least share a little bit about yourself both ways?

00:01:01;08 - 00:01:06;24  
I, you know, I feel called to tell my story,  
and it's not because it's about the great things Max or did,

00:01:07;13 - 00:01:10;24  
but the things I was enabled and allowed to do,

00:01:10;24 - 00:01:12;27  
mostly because of the foundation of my life.

00:01:12;27 - 00:01:17;02  
And everything I've achieved is is Ogden is in Ogden.

00:01:17;02 - 00:01:18;21  
My parents were both civil servants.

00:01:18;21 - 00:01:24;00  
My dad worked at Defense Depot Ogden his whole career,  
and my mom worked for IRS for for a time.

00:01:24;10 - 00:01:25;05  
My grandpa.

00:01:25;05 - 00:01:30;14  
My my mom's dad was a World War  
two enlisted flier, flew over the China Burma India Theater

00:01:30;23 - 00:01:37;06

and lived in in Ogden after he came home from the war  
and retired as a depot employee mechanic at Hill Air Force Base.

00:01:37;23 - 00:01:44;12

And everything that I grew up doing was centered around this great town  
its natural resources, its culture, its institutions.

00:01:45;12 - 00:01:50;09

There was never a time when I wasn't going to go to Weber State  
University.

00:01:50;09 - 00:01:58;12

My earliest recollection in life as a, as a three year old was the 100th  
anniversary, the centennial of the driving of the Golden Spike,

00:01:58;24 - 00:02:04;21

which not technically in Utah,  
but Utah was the the center of gravity of the the railroad industry.

00:02:04;21 - 00:02:08;07

And that happened, you know, in in our community here.

00:02:08;07 - 00:02:14;17

Seeing that the two, two engines fired up  
driving a golden spike with everybody in their 1869 costumes.

00:02:15;10 - 00:02:18;04

When I was three years. Yeah. Not technically in Ogden but in Utah.

00:02:18;04 - 00:02:23;21

And you know, I was born in the old Saint Benedict's Hospital,  
which are condos now. Yep.

00:02:24;10 - 00:02:28;12

Which is where my wife was living  
when we started dating. Yeah. Quality place. I,

00:02:29;24 - 00:02:31;06

graduated from high school.

00:02:31;06 - 00:02:33;12

Product of Ogden City schools. Yep.

00:02:33;12 - 00:02:35;01

Graduated from Weber State.

00:02:35;01 - 00:02:39;08

Before I set off on on the longer part of my Air Force journey.

00:02:39;08 - 00:02:44;02

Living all over the world and moving every couple of years on average  
until we landed back here two.

00:02:44;02 - 00:02:46;22

Years ago, culminating. And now retired.

00:02:46;22 - 00:02:50;14

But at the end of your career as general general Max Spitzer?

00:02:50;14 - 00:02:54;00

Yeah, the the Air Force for some reason, saw fit to

00:02:54;00 - 00:02:57;29

I started as an E-1 and Airman Basic with a high school diploma.

00:02:57;29 - 00:03:00;20

And, I got to do everything in between.

00:03:00;20 - 00:03:08;04

And, served two tours at the Pentagon, including my last assignment  
the last four years before we retired and came back home.

00:03:08;04 - 00:03:14;05

And so I saw that most hands on tactical stuff  
and literally I was the janitor, because that's the first thing

00:03:14;05 - 00:03:16;04

the military teaches you how to do.

00:03:16;04 - 00:03:16;16

Right.

00:03:16;16 - 00:03:26;04

And, and ended up in the Swiss C-suite with global responsibility  
in supply chain, major weapons system sustainment policy and doctrine,

00:03:27;07 - 00:03:31;13

at Headquarters Air Force on the Air Staff and the Joint Chiefs of Staff

00:03:31;13 - 00:03:34;29

was a deputy for logistics there. So amazing.

00:03:34;29 - 00:03:40;08

And and the reason I think that story is important  
is, again, Max didn't do all these things.

00:03:40;09 - 00:03:43;29

People saw value in me and potential in me that I didn't see in myself.

00:03:43;29 - 00:03:46;25

And they were teachers here in to

00:03:46;25 - 00:03:48;16

coaches,

00:03:48;16 - 00:03:55;20

leaders in the military, peers and people who outranked me,  
who pushed me along and pulled me along and gave me opportunities

00:03:55;20 - 00:03:56;12

to do stuff.

00:03:56;12 - 00:04:02;29

And in the end, that culminated in somebody having done all those things  
and being prepared to do the things I did.

00:04:03;18 - 00:04:07;18

And, and that's that's what communities do for people. That's right.

00:04:07;18 - 00:04:10;14

The next generation of leaders, the next generation of Americans

00:04:10;14 - 00:04:14;06

who produce the next generation of leaders  
and the next generation of Americans.

00:04:14;06 - 00:04:17;17

And that's your first duty as a leader is to produce more.  
That's correct.

00:04:17;17 - 00:04:27;06

And I know you're your humble servant, and I know that you took  
a lot of self ownership and empowerment of your own.

00:04:27;20 - 00:04:30;06

You took accountability for yourself along the way, too.

00:04:30;06 - 00:04:34;27

You had to take advantage of those opportunities and the amount  
of support that you had from people all around you. Right.

00:04:34;27 - 00:04:36;08

They can't do it for you.

00:04:36;08 - 00:04:40;08

They can support you along the way.  
But you did a lot of the work yourself, right?

00:04:40;08 - 00:04:44;00

And you always will go further when you have help around us.

00:04:44;00 - 00:04:47;21

And that's really at the heart of the way. It's not about,

00:04:48;27 - 00:04:50;21

it's not about politics done about partizanship.

00:04:50;21 - 00:04:52;12

It's about people, and it's about us.

00:04:52;12 - 00:04:57;21

It's about you, me and everybody  
and or trying to create an environment here for people to succeed.

00:04:58;02 - 00:05:00;16

An environment where people have access to opportunities,

00:05:00;16 - 00:05:05;24

and we need them to have that ownership and self-empowerment  
to take advantage of those opportunities.

00:05:05;25 - 00:05:10;01

And when they do, they're going to have a community  
that's got their back right.

00:05:10;01 - 00:05:11;07

That's the work that we do.

00:05:11;07 - 00:05:12;02

It's the work you're doing.

00:05:12;02 - 00:05:16;20

We'll talk about here shortly. For homeless veterans.

00:05:16;20 - 00:05:19;03

That's what Ogden does right?

00:05:19;03 - 00:05:21;26

Is the template for opportunity. Yeah.

00:05:21;26 - 00:05:27;07

And as I get to work with, you know, people and organizations  
around here, Ogden Weaver Tech, right?

00:05:27;16 - 00:05:32;12

Oh, yeah. People, the opportunity to grow and develop  
and do the most important work in our nation.

00:05:33;17 - 00:05:35;19

You know, so many times

00:05:35;19 - 00:05:40;16

as a general, they're very prestigious and get opportunities to speak,  
and people want to hear from you.

00:05:40;16 - 00:05:45;11

And so I made sure to relate stories again,  
not about all the amazing things

00:05:45;11 - 00:05:50;20

I got to do, but the perspective that gives you a serving at that level.

00:05:50;22 - 00:05:54;19

And and I would, I would, I would talk about those, those very things.

00:05:54;19 - 00:05:58;02

Right. Providing that kind of opportunity for people.

00:05:58;02 - 00:06:01;21

And I'd say, you know, it's amazing to serve at the Pentagon.  
You're at the highest level.

00:06:01;21 - 00:06:09;15

You get to see the things Americans are doing all over the world matter  
every single day around the clock, 24 seven, three, 65.

00:06:09;15 - 00:06:15;03

They put the uniform on and they're serving their families,  
their communities, and this nation as a whole.

00:06:15;07 - 00:06:20;13

And yet, as impressive  
as that is with all the hearts was at weapons systems, none of the work

00:06:20;13 - 00:06:25;22  
they do is more important than what goes on in classrooms  
and in city offices, right?

00:06:25;27 - 00:06:32;08  
Universities and in industry at the local level,  
because those are the foundation, our our defense department

00:06:32;08 - 00:06:39;23  
and military is wholly dependent on private industry to build the things  
and support them and innovate and get the technology in the hands.

00:06:40;19 - 00:06:42;28  
To me, it seems like a codependence

00:06:42;28 - 00:06:50;17  
we can't do this kind of work in the classrooms and neighborhoods  
of our communities without the overarching protection and the freedom.

00:06:50;17 - 00:06:55;29  
That's right, that our warfighters  
and our that our military and service provide for us.

00:06:56;13 - 00:07:01;01  
Yet at the same time, we couldn't have that kind of weapon system. And,

00:07:02;02 - 00:07:04;26  
you know, the the caliber of soldiers

00:07:04:26 - 00:07:10;24  
that we have and airmen and women without the schools in the communities  
developing, just like you came up through Ogden.

00:07:10;24 - 00:07:13;06  
Right? It's a mutual dependance.

00:07:13;06 - 00:07:18;15  
And that's what that's what communities built in mutual  
dependance and reliance and our own fulfillment and goodness.

00:07:18;21 - 00:07:19;11  
Right.

00:07:19;11 - 00:07:25;29  
And I, you know, as, as I got the opportunity to lead  
and then subsequently command, airmen in our United States Air Force,

00:07:26;25 - 00:07:31;20  
I recognized and knew and believed they're the treasure of this nation,

00:07:31;20 - 00:07:37;23  
sons and daughters of American families  
who took an oath right in this, this nation and everything it stood for.

00:07:38;12 - 00:07:45;15  
And we've we've grown up and lived in a time where the military  
was pretty popular and it was popular and, you know, it still is.

00:07:45;15 - 00:07:46;01  
Thankfully,

00:07:47;10 - 00:07:50;01  
for people to see you in uniform and thank you for your service.

00:07:50;01 - 00:07:51;27  
You can't escape that.

00:07:51;27 - 00:07:53;10  
Not that you'd want to.

00:07:53;10 - 00:07:57;19  
And my airmen would come to me and say, you know, they're all humble.

00:07:57;19 - 00:08:00;24  
Part say, I never know. What to say, to be. Thanked.

00:08:00;24 - 00:08:05;20

And I would tell them, say what I say. You're welcome. You're worth it.

00:08:05;20 - 00:08:12;07

Because only 1% of us get the opportunity  
to wear the uniform in this country and join the military.

00:08:12;23 - 00:08:17;22

And that means the other 99% do all the things that we swore to defend.

00:08:17;22 - 00:08:23;20

And so in the oath, it doesn't explicitly say it,  
but it's implied that we're defending not just the Constitution,

00:08:24;08 - 00:08:30;14

but our natural resources, our institutions, our cities,  
our towns, our schools, our culture, the things that we like to do.

00:08:30;21 - 00:08:38;09

And being a citizen in this great republic is a team sport,  
and we should be grateful that it only takes 1% of us

00:08:38;09 - 00:08:44;24

because of our economic system and because of our technological  
and military might, the 1% of us can cover.

00:08:45;07 - 00:08:50;00

And then amazing. For all the rest of us.  
And we make sure that we're superior in every way.

00:08:50;00 - 00:08:54;20

So that fight is an away game  
so the enemy doesn't come on our soil. Unbelievable.

00:08:55;24 - 00:08:56;17

You know,

00:08:56;17 - 00:09:02;17

you make me think of something, Max, that we weren't  
planning on talking about this, but indulge me, if you would, in my job.

00:09:03;11 - 00:09:06;22

I'm here at, like, a smaller scale, community level.

00:09:06;22 - 00:09:13;24

You were working at the Pentagon, at the international, obviously,  
the at the headquarters of National Leadership and World Leadership.

00:09:15;27 - 00:09:16;15

Yeah.

00:09:16;15 - 00:09:19;29

You worked for a lot of different administrations, left and right.

00:09:19;29 - 00:09:24;09

You went through transitions.

00:09:24;09 - 00:09:26;16

Yesterday I had an experience when we were

00:09:26;16 - 00:09:31;12

dedicating the fieldhouse at the Marshall White Center  
to Officer Nate Day.

00:09:31;12 - 00:09:34;04

And I walked up to the podium to say my words and my hands were shaking.

00:09:34;04 - 00:09:37;14

I was so nervous because I was staring back at my officers.

00:09:37;14 - 00:09:43;19

There were so many of them, and they a lot of them knew officer like day  
personally and served with him and were there.

00:09:44;22 - 00:09:46;19

And I was like, I can't believe this.

00:09:46;19 - 00:09:48;21

I cannot take this lightly.

00:09:48;21 - 00:09:52;21

And I got so in my head

I was getting nervous. And I don't get nervous usually. Right.

00:09:52;21 - 00:09:59;06

But I had this moment of like realization

of the significance of my responsibility and stewardship of what?

00:09:59;27 - 00:10:04;20

Of what I've inherited, but also what we're building  
and what we are responsible for stewarding.

00:10:04;20 - 00:10:07;28

And that's such a small scale  
compared to what you were working at, right?

00:10:07;28 - 00:10:13;25

But it's also a more personal scale because I know the names  
of the officers, almost every one of them that were in the room.

00:10:15;01 - 00:10:17;14

Did you ever get a sense that, like

00:10:17;14 - 00:10:20;25

when you're dealing with that level of significance, just the

00:10:20;25 - 00:10:25;21

how inherently small politics seems

00:10:25;21 - 00:10:30;12

compared to the significance of the human capital and the people?

00:10:30;12 - 00:10:31;06

Yeah. You know,

00:10:32;12 - 00:10:33;04

did you get.

00:10:33;04 - 00:10:36;23

It's unfortunate the the way things have.

00:10:36;23 - 00:10:40;09

I don't want to say progressed

because it's not it's not really progress.

00:10:40;09 - 00:10:46;14

But but the state that we find ourselves in here  
politically and the divisiveness and at the my,

00:10:46;14 - 00:10:52;15

my observation and experiences,  
it's wholly manufactured, wholly is the great thing.

00:10:52;16 - 00:10:58;15

You know, we we will always Revere the greatest generation,  
the folks who fought and won World War II.

00:10:58;23 - 00:11:01;23

And. Should defeated global fascism.

00:11:01;23 - 00:11:07;22

And gave us that everything that we've lived on and,  
and depended on in our lifetime for sure.

00:11:08;01 - 00:11:10;22

And I don't want a draft to come back.

00:11:10;22 - 00:11:16;01

But that was a thing in World War one, World  
War two and up until the end of the Vietnam War, here.

00:11:17;03 - 00:11:22;15

And the really good byproduct of that was  
people were drafted from all over.

00:11:22;17 - 00:11:28;08

So you take a kid from a farm and a kid from inner city,

and a kid from one state, a kid from another state,

00:11:28;08 - 00:11:33;17

and you know, different colors of pigmentation and skin  
and background and religions and everything.

00:11:33;22 - 00:11:38;16

And you hear the wisdom and the time tested, proven things

00:11:38;16 - 00:11:44;04

that we do in the military to train people, throw them all together,  
put them through basic training and make them the same.

00:11:44;04 - 00:11:47;18

Make it, make each of them an integral part of the unit, recognizing

00:11:47;18 - 00:11:51;24

none are better or worse than the others,  
no more important or anything like that.

00:11:51;24 - 00:11:56;16

Regardless of your background, you're Americans  
and you're going to fight and win this war for us.

00:11:56;16 - 00:12:06;06

And, the military has always been a famously steadfastly  
apolitical and nonpartisan and unfortunately in, in recent years,

00:12:07;07 - 00:12:11;27

the respect that was given the military,  
even within the halls of the Pentagon

00:12:11;27 - 00:12:17;22

has it's, it's thinned  
significantly and politics has crept in where it didn't exist before.

00:12:18;10 - 00:12:25;12

And people have felt empowered and enabled to kind of demonstrate  
and fly the flag of their particular personal politics.

00:12:25;26 - 00:12:31;05

And it is not a good thing for our military,  
and it's not a good thing for our nation. And,

00:12:32;00 - 00:12:38;02

I, you know, I like some of the,  
the local offices and the political races that are held there.

00:12:38;17 - 00:12:43;10

You serve your community,  
and it's not even a Partizan political office, right? Yeah.

00:12:43;10 - 00:12:45;26

But even that's starting to change.

00:12:45;26 - 00:12:50;22

I mean, it's it's been changing for a while,  
and it's one of the biggest challenges I have in this job is

00:12:52;03 - 00:12:55;17

we see when you go home at night,

00:12:55;17 - 00:12:58;27

turn on your TV or flip through your phone  
and look through the headlines.

00:12:58;27 - 00:13:01;12

You're reading about national politics for the most part.

00:13:01;12 - 00:13:06;01

If you're interested in the goings on in the world,  
you're just looking at national headlines.

00:13:06;01 - 00:13:10;21

There's all kinds of media biases  
and spins this and that. And the other.

00:13:10;21 - 00:13:16;03

And it just and I, my fellow mayors say this around the state,

00:13:17:01 - 00:13:22:09

nobody can reach out to the president or Congress  
or whatever the administration,

00:13:22:27 - 00:13:25:22

but they can reach their city council members  
and their mayors. That's right.

00:13:25:22 - 00:13:27:22

And that's by design.

00:13:27:22 - 00:13:30:08

But we're not Washington DC either, right?

00:13:30:08 - 00:13:33:22

That's right. We're Ogden, USA, and we're damn proud of that.

00:13:33:22 - 00:13:42:15

But if we keep trying to collect garbage and run a golf course  
and things like that with a partisan bent and with, with,

00:13:43:14 - 00:13:45:09

with with politics as our priority,

00:13:45:09 - 00:13:51:00

it we're not going to build our best and strongest community,  
and we're losing sight of that as a country.

00:13:51:12 - 00:13:56:17

Certainly in this community,  
it's just keeps getting poured into us all the time.

00:13:56:17 - 00:13:59:07

And I'm spending more and more of my time pedaling Partizan politics.

00:13:59:07 - 00:14:00:18

It's driving me crazy

00:14:00:18 - 00:14:05:10

because the more time we spend, the more energy we invest in that,  
the less we're investing in our people, in our community.

00:14:05:10 - 00:14:06:19

Right?

00:14:06:19 - 00:14:12:23

And so anyway, I think about that when you're in,  
when you talk about your mission and the in the Pentagon,

00:14:14:05 - 00:14:18:09

what an important mission that has to go on no matter what.

00:14:18:09 - 00:14:19:16

Right.

00:14:19:16 - 00:14:24:01

And I view the work of, of our city the same way our.

00:14:24:01 - 00:14:29:10

You know, when when an incident occurs here,  
you know, a fire that threatens houses.

00:14:29:17 - 00:14:36:02

Nobody cares what political party or how, you know,  
firefighters voted for right handers or the owner of that house.

00:14:36:08 - 00:14:38:19

The community comes out and supports them.

00:14:38:19 - 00:14:44:12

Because just like in the military,  
the most, most important label you wear, it says United States, correct?

00:14:44:20 - 00:14:47:05

United States Army says us first.

00:14:47;05 - 00:14:48;18  
And it's like in sports.

00:14:48;18 - 00:14:52;07  
Or you playing for the name  
on the front of the jersey. Or the one on the back. Yeah.

00:14:53;26 - 00:14:58;05  
And and that's, that's absolutely the case here locally.

00:14:58;05 - 00:15:01;11  
And so,

00:15:01;11 - 00:15:06;12  
again, that, that kind of manufactured rage and divisiveness

00:15:06;12 - 00:15:12;20  
and everything really evaporates here at the local level  
because people are actually neighbors and citizens.

00:15:13;06 - 00:15:18;15  
And the most important things that happen in  
this country are foundational to families and neighborhoods, right?

00:15:18;19 - 00:15:19;16  
Yeah.

00:15:19;16 - 00:15:25;28  
And everything above that level is kind of bloated infrastructure  
that, you know, maybe we could do with a lot less of

00:15:25;29 - 00:15:31;00  
and a little more of regular small town. Grit like we enjoy here.

00:15:31;00 - 00:15:36;23  
That's why I'm looking at your shirt, the Major Brant Taylor Foundation,  
that's a partnership that I've treasured since I started as mayor.

00:15:37;24 - 00:15:39;29  
For all of those reasons.

00:15:39;29 - 00:15:45;06  
When we fly that flag over Washington Boulevard,  
that is a huge citywide reminder

00:15:45;06 - 00:15:50;29  
of who we actually are  
and what we share in common, and the and the mission that we all share,

00:15:52;00 - 00:15:53;03  
no matter the role we play.

00:15:53;03 - 00:15:56;23  
We should all be participating in a mission  
in the betterment of our America.

00:15:56;23 - 00:16:01;07  
And whether you're left or right, up or down, I don't care.

00:16:01;07 - 00:16:02;02  
We're all here.

00:16:02;02 - 00:16:03;02  
We're all American.

00:16:03;02 - 00:16:05;28  
We're all working toward a better future, you know?

00:16:05;28 - 00:16:10;16  
And that's why. That's why I wear a flag on my belt every day.

00:16:10;16 - 00:16:15;25  
That's why I partnered with the foundation to fly  
flag over our city for pioneer days.

00:16:16;04 - 00:16:19;20  
And what a beautiful scene that was. Oh, my gosh.

00:16:19;20 - 00:16:22;14

Can you just feel the difference in our town?

00:16:22;14 - 00:16:26;22

Yeah. When? As soon as that goes up. That's. It's like a separate sun.

00:16:26;22 - 00:16:28;16

Isn't it? Yeah.

00:16:28;16 - 00:16:29;23

It's like it replaces the sun.

00:16:29;23 - 00:16:31;26

You forget about the sun and its significance,

00:16:31;26 - 00:16:38;07

and you just think about the significance of the flag  
and I see a lot of change in people's spirit around it.

00:16:38;19 - 00:16:41;25

I love that it's my favorite time of year for that reason.

00:16:41;25 - 00:16:45;09

It is it's it's one of the greatest honors I've ever been given.

00:16:45;09 - 00:16:52;00

And and I've only been on the board of the Major  
Brant Taylor Foundation for the couple years since I moved back here.

00:16:52;00 - 00:16:53;03

And retired at home.

00:16:54;04 - 00:16:57;27

But but the the story in the mission is very personal to me.

00:16:57;27 - 00:17:03;23

I was at the Pentagon at the time when Brant Taylor was killed,  
and I didn't know Jenny before,

00:17:04;09 - 00:17:13;01

and I reached out to her to express my condolences  
and to let her and her family know that his his loss and passing was

00:17:13;16 - 00:17:19;19

was a national tragedy,  
not just the North Orange County or even just for their family.

00:17:19;19 - 00:17:24;01

You know, that they shoulder the brunt of the sacrifice  
that was made. Oh, yeah.

00:17:24;01 - 00:17:29;10

His sacrifice of his life  
and their sacrifice of no longer having a father and a husband.

00:17:29;25 - 00:17:37;03

And so when we moved back here, Jenny moved with all due haste,  
to bring me onto the board of directors of that organization.

00:17:37;28 - 00:17:44;26

And, you know, it's it's important to recognize  
and remember and teach history.

00:17:44;26 - 00:17:51;02

And so the priorities of Major  
Brant Taylor Foundation are to to train, honor and engage.

00:17:51;29 - 00:17:59;08

And in all of that centers around patriotism  
and the value and, and vital role of cities and communities.

00:17:59;08 - 00:18:04;06

And you can't lose the fact that he was serving as an elected mayor.

00:18:04;06 - 00:18:06;14

It is his community, right?

00:18:06;14 - 00:18:11;11

He was a member of the Utah National Guard  
and was deployed on his on his fifth deployment

00:18:11;11 - 00:18;15;10  
when he was when he was unfortunately killed in service.

00:18;15;10 - 00:18;17;07  
And that's that's noteworthy.

00:18;17;07 - 00:18;19;18  
A lot of people may or may not know and recognize.

00:18;19;18 - 00:18;21;06  
He was the first U.S.

00:18;21;06 - 00:18;24;28  
elected official killed in action in the military since the Civil War.

00:18;27;03 - 00:18;30;19  
It's it's not it's not that common

00:18;30;19 - 00:18;35;28  
for for somebody to serve in that way with so many facets in their life.

00:18;36;01 - 00:18;39;20  
Taylor was right. Absolutely. All American.

00:18;39;20 - 00:18;40;25  
In in every single way.

00:18;40;25 - 00:18;44;25  
As a mayor, as a citizen, as a as a father, as a husband.

00:18;44;25 - 00:18;46;23  
In, in every single thing he did.

00:18;46;23 - 00:18;54;13  
And as they built the organization and as I've been able to become  
part of it, the story goes back to his high school graduation. Yep.

00:18;54;24 - 00:18;58;16  
At Arizona, where he was the the senior class president.

00:18;58;16 - 00:19;04;20  
And the education we do in schools at the public school level, mostly

00:19;04;20 - 00:19;10;09  
in high schools, centers around the five principles  
that he espoused in his graduation speech.

00:19;10;23 - 00:19;15;00  
So that guy was was raised  
right in a great American family and a great community.

00:19;16;01 - 00:19;17;27  
And, and carried that through.

00:19;17;27 - 00:19;20;12  
So he had an amazing foundation.

00:19;20;12 - 00:19;26;07  
All those same conditions exist in this city  
and in every city, like, like Ogden.

00:19;26;11 - 00:19;28;16  
And so it's so important to teach that.

00:19;28;16 - 00:19;35;14  
And recognize it and then to continue to replicate it, because there's  
a Brett Taylor in every graduating class, in every school.

00:19;35;20 - 00:19;36;17  
Right.

00:19;36;17 - 00:19;41;24  
And everywhere else in this country,  
and all the things that he got to do by getting himself

00:19:41;24 - 00:19:49;21

educated in universities, in the state and serving in a town, in this this county here, that opportunity exists for everybody.

00:19:49;21 - 00:19:53;07

And somebody is going to do those things, and we want it to be the right person.

00:19:53;07 - 00:20:01;04

And we want to have a population that continues to value and model exactly what it represents. Yep.

00:20:01;12 - 00:20:03;26

It's all about service, right?

00:20:03;26 - 00:20:06;23

It's amazing. If you watch the his high school speech,

00:20:07;29 - 00:20:13;02

how far ahead he was in his wisdom for his age.

00:20:13;02 - 00:20:16;25

I I'm glad I didn't have to compete with him right.

00:20:16;25 - 00:20:19;04

And his and his speech was brief.

00:20:19;04 - 00:20:22;28

He he knew the the attention span of people back then.

00:20:22;28 - 00:20:27;07

And he's like, I'm going to make it. I'm going to make it short, but I'm going to make it matter.

00:20:27;07 - 00:20:29;20

And those principles endure.

00:20:29;20 - 00:20:30;17

I know.

00:20:30;17 - 00:20:31;27

97. High school kid.

00:20:31;27 - 00:20:32;26

Yeah, right.

00:20:32;26 - 00:20:38;08

So I graduated two years prior from a high school nearby in Arizona as well. And,

00:20:39;13 - 00:20:44;04

to think back over where I was at back then, nowhere near the caliber.

00:20:44;04 - 00:20:45;13

Not even close.

00:20:45;13 - 00:20:47;13

Right. I'm glad you got here from Arizona.

00:20:47;13 - 00:20:51;13

I am too. I'm too.

00:20:51;13 - 00:20:54;19

I came from a great place, but I love where I landed. I'm so lucky.

00:20:54;19 - 00:20:58;29

I was so blessed to be here in Ogden.

We're blessed to have you. In your family. Appreciate it. Man.

00:20:58;29 - 00:21:01;23

Keeping that reputation up. That's right.

00:21:01;23 - 00:21:06;26

I'm trying. And I appreciate trying to. So with all of the,

00:21:08;19 - 00:21:09;29

with everything that you've learned

00:21:09;29 - 00:21:15;08  
and gained through your career, through your life,  
through your upbringing here in Ogden.

00:21:15;13 - 00:21:17;15  
What do you do with that now?

00:21:17;15 - 00:21:21;25  
You're retired from military service formally, right?

00:21:21;25 - 00:21:23;15  
Then you're looking to. It's. Which is funny.

00:21:23;15 - 00:21:25;23  
You're like, it's time to give back.

00:21:25;23 - 00:21:30;08  
You've been giving back your entire life, entire career,  
and now you want to give back.

00:21:30;08 - 00:21:32;26  
That's like I was given

00:21:32;26 - 00:21:34;08  
an opportunity. Yeah. Career.

00:21:34;08 - 00:21:37;14  
And now it's time to get back in for that.

00:21:37;14 - 00:21:38;26  
Certainly, I worked hard.

00:21:38;26 - 00:21:42;18  
That's not an easy career for decades. Yeah. In the military.

00:21:42;18 - 00:21:45;17  
That's. That's 220 year careers. I could retire twice.

00:21:45;17 - 00:21:48;10  
I was just so dumb. I only did it once,

00:21:48;10 - 00:21:50;14  
but I knew where to come back to.

00:21:50;14 - 00:21:53;10  
So, you know, overall, probably briefly,

00:21:54;13 - 00:21:55;23  
to just to summarize,

00:21:55;23 - 00:22:01;04  
my mission in the military as a leader is to put the capabilities  
we need in the hands of warfighters.

00:22:01;07 - 00:22:04;11  
And whether you're at the lowest tactical level  
and you're given a mission

00:22:04;11 - 00:22:09;28  
and the equipment to do that, you make sure your warfighters,  
the airmen, soldiers, sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen,

00:22:10;13 - 00:22:15;09  
and Space Force guardians, whatever service you're responsible  
for, have to have

00:22:15;09 - 00:22:20;18  
the stuff and the training  
and the leadership to go do their job on behalf of this nation.

00:22:20;25 - 00:22:26;23  
As I, you know, grew through the ranks and was given more  
responsibility, more authority for budgets, larger orders.

00:22:26;25 - 00:22:27;17  
Yeah.

00:22:27;17 - 00:22:29;14

Portfolios and everything.

00:22:29;14 - 00:22:32;26  
That baseline never changed.

00:22:32;26 - 00:22:36;24  
But the things we need in the hands of warfighters  
so they can fight and win wars.

00:22:36;24 - 00:22:42;24  
And as I retired  
and then had the opportunity to decide what my path forward would be,

00:22:44;11 - 00:22:48;19  
you could probably nobody would criticize you  
for just retiring and tending your garden

00:22:48;19 - 00:22:54;03  
and mow your lawn and playing with your grandbabies,  
and I hardly wanted to do that very thing.

00:22:54;12 - 00:23:00;25  
I was tired and I worked hard, and,  
and it's a grind to to live and serve and work in Washington, DC.

00:23:01;02 - 00:23:07;03  
The best tours were seven years is, you know, kind of exceptional  
and not normal as well.

00:23:07;27 - 00:23:13;06  
But I couldn't I would felt like a fraud if I hadn't done more.

00:23:13;07 - 00:23:18;09  
For all the faith  
that was given to me, all the all the confidence people expressed in me

00:23:18;09 - 00:23:24;27  
and gave me the opportunity to be that person who walked across  
that stage and retired, and I knew I still had gas in the tank.

00:23:25;28 - 00:23:28;10  
You know, I know I'm almost 60.

00:23:28;10 - 00:23:30;26  
I feel like I'm almost 40.

00:23:30;26 - 00:23:35;04  
And I hope I continue to feel that way,  
at least physically and mentally, you know?

00:23:35;04 - 00:23:40;20  
And so I still had gas in the tank,  
and I recognized I could still have the same mission.

00:23:41;09 - 00:23:48;02  
But the capabilities we need in the hands of warfighters is Utah  
ecosystem here in aerospace defense, keep tech

00:23:48;25 - 00:23:55;05  
manufacturing, higher education, all all the institutions  
that kind of contribute to the national security

00:23:55;20 - 00:24:01;01  
and the defense industrial base of this nation exist here in some form.

00:24:01;03 - 00:24:06;25  
And I could still work now from the outside with a different uniform on  
and perform that same mission

00:24:07;10 - 00:24:12;17  
and help the services and the Department of Defense  
and also hopefully greatly benefit this community

00:24:12;17 - 00:24:17;07  
because all of those things represent economies, jobs, quality of life.

00:24:17;07 - 00:24:19;14  
All the things that come with that.

00:24:19;14 - 00:24:24;22  
And, and so sometimes when I should take a step back  
now, over the past couple of years,

00:24:24;29 - 00:24:28;21  
I think I can be more effective than I ever was in uniform.

00:24:28;21 - 00:24:34;25  
You know, they give you a rank and a title and, and at some points, you  
know, when you get the seniors, I was everybody has to listen to you.

00:24:34;27 - 00:24:38;22  
Right? The general is always right. It's always wise.  
And the jokes are always funny.

00:24:40;05 - 00:24:41;02  
And with that,

00:24:41;02 - 00:24:47;03  
with that behind you, people only recognize your character  
and your abilities and your motivation and

00:24:47;03 - 00:24:54;11  
and so with that and with the, the great people in this community,  
in this ecosystem, I can leverage all that.

00:24:54;11 - 00:24:59;11  
They give me a lot of deference and respect,  
and they want the general to help with their organization.

00:24:59;11 - 00:25:03;19  
But, I recognize that's not me they're looking for help with.

00:25:03;19 - 00:25:06;05  
It's what I can do with what I've been given.

00:25:06;05 - 00:25:08;12  
And so that's that's my mission now.

00:25:08;12 - 00:25:13;21  
And every organization I'm part of,  
whether it's a nonprofit like the Major Brant Taylor Foundation

00:25:13;21 - 00:25:20;12  
for teaching and serving in different roles at Weber State University,  
all contribute to national security.

00:25:20;13 - 00:25:25;10  
And if I can connect those dots,  
I'll always say yes to those. Opportunities where I'm glad you do

00:25:26;25 - 00:25:32;00  
say, how did you say it again,  
putting their capabilities in the hands of the nation's warfighters.

00:25:32;00 - 00:25:37;08  
That's that's a good way of summing it up for your background,  
but it's not too much different

00:25:37;08 - 00:25:39;23  
for describing leadership in almost any other setting.

00:25:39;23 - 00:25:43;13  
It's to try and give our workforce, to give our,

00:25:43;13 - 00:25:49;01  
our people here at the city, to give our people in our community  
the things that they need access to the tools they need in order

00:25:49;01 - 00:25:49;29  
to succeed.

00:25:49;29 - 00:25:56;00  
That's the that's the job of leaders to empower and to support  
and to give what they need in order to succeed.

00:25:56;00 - 00:25:57;21

Their success is ours.

00:25:57;21 - 00:25:59;10

Ours is theirs, right.

00:25:59;10 - 00:26:02;21

And so but that's how you say it in your line of work.

00:26:02;21 - 00:26:07;01

But it's no it's really no different. So if anybody is listening here and you're not in the military background,

00:26:08;10 - 00:26:09;00

we're still people.

00:26:09;00 - 00:26:11;04

It's still leadership. It's the same principles.

00:26:11;04 - 00:26:13;12

You know, look, look at how we recruit in military.

00:26:13;12 - 00:26:18;08

What, what what are on the ads and the posters on the hardware. Because that's sexy, right?

00:26:18;08 - 00:26:23;05

People want to fly in F-35, Air Force Base or operate a tanker or, you know.

00:26:23;05 - 00:26:28;05

A weapon or I don't think I don't think we want that.

00:26:28;05 - 00:26:32;16

I don't I don't think that's good. Yeah, yeah, I'll take it.

00:26:32;16 - 00:26:35;08

So so that's why I joined.

00:26:35;08 - 00:26:41;01

But you quickly recognize if you should make that transition and the conditioning and realization should happen

00:26:41;11 - 00:26:44;29

no matter what your technical specialty is, you in the people business.

00:26:44;29 - 00:26:45;13

Oh, yeah.

00:26:45;13 - 00:26:48;15

You're in the people business. There's, there's nothing to your job.

00:26:48;15 - 00:26:55;22

But being in the people business and good citizens of this, this community and it's all about exactly that, given the resources,

00:26:55;22 - 00:27:02;23

the structure, the policy that benefits them, the benefits, the economy, their quality of life, and their ability to to pursue life, liberty

00:27:02;23 - 00:27:05;02

and the pursuit of happiness. Exactly.

00:27:05;02 - 00:27:09;04

Guaranteed rights.

And by our creator, guaranteed by our Constitution. Yep.

00:27:09;04 - 00:27:11;06

That's why I got to share a stage with you in it.

00:27:11;06 - 00:27:15;02

Ben Lomond High School on behalf of the Major Brant Taylor Foundation

00:27:15;02 - 00:27:21;19

teaching leadership principles to our youth, we had student body leadership from every school in the district.

00:27:21;19 - 00:27:23;06

There did me right.

00:27:23;06 - 00:27:28;27

And we were we were all asked to to share a portion of the message from Brant Taylor's high school speech.

00:27:29;21 - 00:27:32;15

And then I shared kind of the summary. Right.

00:27:32;15 - 00:27:36;27

That was a that's the kind of work that the Foundation does that a lot of people don't see,

00:27:36;27 - 00:27:41;18

that doesn't you don't see that in the flags flying over Washington Boulevard or over Coldwater Canyon?

00:27:41;18 - 00:27:45;17

But you see that in the kids that we have in our community. Right?

00:27:45;17 - 00:27:48;21

That's the goal of building the next generation of leaders for our city.

00:27:48;21 - 00:27:54;19

That then so they become a board member on the Major Brant Taylor Foundation, or the chairman one day, or their own.

00:27:55;01 - 00:27:59;23

Or the general or the mayor. Right. Remember I asked, how many here want to run for mayor one day?

00:27:59;23 - 00:28:03;03

Quite a few kids in their number of which I'd coached in sports, actually.

00:28:04;08 - 00:28:04;29

It was fun to see.

00:28:04;29 - 00:28:06;05

That was a fun day.

00:28:06;05 - 00:28:11;09

That's the kind of rewarding work we get to do, So as we look to our future here in Ogden

00:28:11;09 - 00:28:17;13

and we look at our proximity to Hill Air Force Base, we look at the significance of the mission of Hill Air Force Base in the world.

00:28:17;13 - 00:28:19;25

Theater.

00:28:19;25 - 00:28:23;15

Tell us a little bit about the opportunities we have in Ogden.

00:28:23;15 - 00:28:28;24

Given that proximity and the mission and the support that we as a community provide for the the mission on base.

00:28:29;03 - 00:28:33;17

You know, there Hill Air Force bases is vital to the defense of this nation.

00:28:33;17 - 00:28:39;15

And, their 51 mission partners at Hill Air Force Base, they're not all Air Force.

00:28:40;27 - 00:28:43;10

They're they're not all, you know, warfighting units.

00:28:43;10 - 00:28:48;04

There are a lot of enablers and things like that. And certainly a lot of the community that's on the air, contractors.

00:28:48;04 - 00:28:52;07

So they're civilians who work and live in the community and do work that supports

00:28:53;09 - 00:28:54;05

national defense.

00:28:54;05 - 00:28:59;13

And all the programs that are run at Hill  
Air Force Base, Hill Air Force Base and the Pentagon

00:28:59;25 - 00:29:06;13

also have about 26,000 people that go in and out the gates  
and the doors to that installation every single day.

00:29:06;29 - 00:29:09;27

And a lot of them live in in Park City.

00:29:09;27 - 00:29:19;11

And it's no mistake in, I think, 1940 when when they came and found  
the location for that base and made it the military installation

00:29:19;27 - 00:29:26;09

that they named it the Ogden Your Material area, though  
it's not in the corporate limits of Ogden City.

00:29:26;25 - 00:29:33;17

That's the major town that most influence on, on how that organization  
has progressed through history is the city of Arden.

00:29:33;24 - 00:29:34;14

Right.

00:29:34;14 - 00:29:39;23

And, and so when you when you talk to people throughout the Air Force  
and you're talking about the depots,

00:29:40;02 - 00:29:45;08

one of three of which is here at the Air Force  
base used, you refer to that as Ogden.

00:29:45;08 - 00:29:45;27

Right.

00:29:45;27 - 00:29:51;13

F-16s, F-35s, F-22s  
eighteens, C-130s and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

00:29:51;29 - 00:29:55;23

Depot maintenance and repair and overhaul happens at all.

00:29:55;23 - 00:29:56;28

Right.

00:29:56;28 - 00:30:04;11

People know and understand the vital role of Ogden City in that base,  
and it will always be the case.

00:30:05;07 - 00:30:09;02

This will always be the center of gravity with Weber State University  
here.

00:30:09;02 - 00:30:10;11

With Ogden Weaver Tech.

00:30:10;11 - 00:30:14;15

And then a lot of the other supporting and enabling industry here.

00:30:14;15 - 00:30:18;18

The Barton Airport, Ogden Hinckley airport. Right. Yeah.

00:30:18;18 - 00:30:24;24

To have a second airfield nearby if we needed a national emergency  
and you know, for other,

00:30:25;09 - 00:30:32;10

other ways that that benefits and there's a significant number  
of defense industry on the premises of an airport, it's a great.

00:30:32;26 - 00:30:36;29

Good going to be more to. Contiguous to to I-15.

00:30:36;29 - 00:30:38;25

And the other manufacturing that happens here.

00:30:38;25 - 00:30:44;19

And so that that presence is continued to grow, recognizing Ogden as a place where people want to live

00:30:45;04 - 00:30:47;29

so they can work in those places nearby.

00:30:47;29 - 00:30:49;04

The quality of life is here.

00:30:49;04 - 00:30:53;06

The recreation, the culture, the arts, the natural resources and beauty.

00:30:53;06 - 00:30:55;20

Yeah, everything that we get to enjoy here,

00:30:57;06 - 00:31:02;03

we we moved every two years on average until our 15th move brought us back.

00:31:02;03 - 00:31:05;10

Wow. Back to my hometown two years ago.

00:31:05;10 - 00:31:09;20

And every every town says we give our military installation the best support.

00:31:09;20 - 00:31:13;00

And this community's different and better.

00:31:13;00 - 00:31:17;09

They can say that because they don't understand and they haven't all been here and seen them.

00:31:17;09 - 00:31:22;08

But I can tell you objectively, the truth is there's something different

00:31:22;08 - 00:31:27;15

and better and special about this community that doesn't exist in other places.

00:31:27;15 - 00:31:36;25

And and it's because the culture and the foundation that exists here in this city that has existed since it was founded, the pioneer spirit.

00:31:37;09 - 00:31:40;00

Oh, yeah. First settlers here,

00:31:40;00 - 00:31:45;06

the people you know, when you grow up and live here, names you see on the buildings

00:31:45;06 - 00:31:49;15

that Weaver state and around this town, these Eccles, Stewart's, Lindquist. Right.

00:31:49;15 - 00:31:54;15

Yep. On and on and on. One. And it's important to recognize their story.

00:31:54;15 - 00:32:00;19

If you're in the military, you might not know or recognize any of those foundational names from Ogden.

00:32:01;00 - 00:32:05;00

If you're in the military, you know, John Moses Browning. Oh, yeah. You better.

00:32:05;00 - 00:32:05;29

He did. Yeah.

00:32:05;29 - 00:32:07;01

He represented.

00:32:07;01 - 00:32:12;10

And so, you know, in the military, we name buildings and facilities after people.

00:32:12;15 - 00:32:17;22  
And I would always challenge my airmen say, hey, you work in, you know,

00:32:17;22 - 00:32:23;22  
just just say, for example, you work inside  
John Hall, do you know Captain Nanci John story and say, no, no.

00:32:23;24 - 00:32:25;13  
So you walk through those doors every day.

00:32:25;13 - 00:32:30;10  
Why don't you learn who he is  
and why we saw fit to name a building after him?

00:32:30;10 - 00:32:34;21  
I would issue the same challenge  
for people in this community who were the Eccles?

00:32:35;23 - 00:32:36;18  
Who were the brownies?

00:32:36;18 - 00:32:39;26  
What did they do for us and what are they continuing to do?

00:32:39;26 - 00:32:43;16  
I mean, literally through centuries. There we a.

00:32:43;16 - 00:32:49;17  
There from from back in the 1800s to now, in this day and age,  
our baseball field is name linguist.

00:32:50;03 - 00:32:54;12  
Find out what that family has represented. Right? Community.

00:32:54;12 - 00:32:59;21  
And then consign yourself to preserving their legacy

00:32:59;25 - 00:33:04;11  
for the institutions  
that they built, preserving them and building on them as a citizen.

00:33:04;11 - 00:33:12;11  
Of their titans of industry and manufacturing, you know, banking and  
finance, world finance titans of innovation came right out of the city.

00:33:12;20 - 00:33:15;23  
Scowcroft. Right. Yeah, right.

00:33:15;23 - 00:33:18;03  
Air Force Lieutenant General,

00:33:18;03 - 00:33:23;24  
if a worldwide no name for his role in national security  
and in politics, the good kind of politics.

00:33:23;29 - 00:33:24;13  
There you go.

00:33:26;27 - 00:33:30;21  
That's the that's what we don't often give ourselves credit for.

00:33:30;21 - 00:33:36;19  
But I want to go back to the point that that you made earlier that  
that when you think about Hill Air Force Base, you think about Ogden,

00:33:36;27 - 00:33:39;02  
and there's some separation spatially between Ogden

00:33:39;02 - 00:33:44;11  
and the base and there's other cities and communities nearby,  
but we're still all Ogden to a degree.

00:33:44;22 - 00:33:47;02  
Even if you live in Clearfield, you're Clearfield City resident.

00:33:47;02 - 00:33:51;07  
You you fly that flag for Clearfield proudly, I'm sure, I hope.

00:33:51;07 - 00:33:54;27  
And yet you still have an association, an attachment to Ogden.

00:33:54;27 - 00:34:02;18  
And I want Ogden to have that same affinity and attachment  
to Clearfield and, and and that's why I've put a lot of energy

00:34:02;18 - 00:34:08;19  
into building relations and, and having a close amount  
of collaboration, coordination with neighboring mayors.

00:34:09;01 - 00:34:13;14  
Because when people look at us,  
they don't just look at Ogden City and our boundaries.

00:34:13;14 - 00:34:19;06  
We are relying on the well-being and the prospering  
of the neighboring communities, and they're relying on us for the same.

00:34:19;22 - 00:34:25;01  
We have a lot of resources that they need,  
and there are times of need like when there's a fire on the hillside.

00:34:25;02 - 00:34:29;03  
We provide a lot of the first responder resources  
to help support North Ogden.

00:34:29;03 - 00:34:31;17  
Right. And a pleasant view. And so

00:34:33;07 - 00:34:34;22  
at the same time,

00:34:34;22 - 00:34:40;17  
they provide a lot of homes and families and workforce, right,  
that come into our downtown,

00:34:41;05 - 00:34:46;28  
you know, restaurants that come in and house  
all of our employers develop workforce.

00:34:47;11 - 00:34:50;22  
I mean, we're all more reliant on each other than we give ourselves  
credit for.

00:34:50;22 - 00:34:56;01  
And as we're looking at our economic strategy,  
and I just had a meeting this morning with my top leadership team

00:34:56;09 - 00:35:01;08  
talking about an economic strategy that we're putting together  
that's rooted in what are the things that we're missing.

00:35:01;08 - 00:35:03;12  
But what are the opportunities are right there?

00:35:03;12 - 00:35:06;21  
What are we poised for and prepared to take advantage of?

00:35:06;21 - 00:35:09;29  
Defense and aerospace is the most obvious industry, right?

00:35:09;29 - 00:35:12;05  
We're already going after it big time.

00:35:12;05 - 00:35:14;15  
We got to double down on that. Right.

00:35:14;15 - 00:35:17;03  
But we've got to think about ourselves more about the bigger,

00:35:18;02 - 00:35:19;19  
economic area,

00:35:19;19 - 00:35:25;02  
the metropolitan statistical area and the role that we play as a city  
and the downtown that we play for northern Utah.

00:35:25;15 - 00:35:28;17  
Right. We are northern Utah's downtown.

00:35:28;17 - 00:35:30;20  
There isn't another one like ours.

00:35:30;20 - 00:35:35;20  
And everybody's counting on us to thrive,  
and we're counting on them in order for us to thrive.

00:35:35;20 - 00:35:40;09  
And we've got to have a more macroeconomic outlook than just us.

00:35:40;09 - 00:35:43;15  
Right. And those other cities are really good.

00:35:43;15 - 00:35:47;14  
And all the same events and venues and things we go to.

00:35:47;14 - 00:35:52;04  
Mark Sheppard from Clearfield. Is absolutely,  
absolutely from Clinton City.

00:35:52;04 - 00:35:53;01  
Yeah.

00:35:53;01 - 00:35:57;07  
And all the other mayors and everything.  
But but but you have one up on that.

00:35:57;07 - 00:35:59;25  
Ogden's the county seat. Right?

00:35:59;25 - 00:36:03;19  
I know they're count on us. Right.

00:36:03;19 - 00:36:04;05  
For sure.

00:36:04;05 - 00:36:10;17  
But, you know, again, the military just,  
you know, just like sports teams and everything, you have a rivalry.

00:36:10;28 - 00:36:18;07  
And if you have the same mission and you're working on the same military  
base, it's a rivalry with among and across the units and everything.

00:36:18;21 - 00:36:21;04  
But you're on the same team. Exactly right.

00:36:21;04 - 00:36:24;02  
We get the same patch and the same color uniform and everything that.

00:36:24;02 - 00:36:29;07  
Yeah, absolutely the case here.  
They recognize we're completely interdependent,

00:36:30;06 - 00:36:31;19  
in in all the right ways.

00:36:31;19 - 00:36:39;06  
And every, every person, every organization  
and even cities are lopsided in some ways and have strengths in others.

00:36:39;20 - 00:36:41;08  
And you bring them together

00:36:41;08 - 00:36:46;29  
and, you know, and you and you pick and choose and cultivate  
the best parts of everything to make the whole community right.

00:36:47;00 - 00:36:50;04  
Exactly how things are around here, exactly how that happens.

00:36:50;04 - 00:36:55;17  
And it's a tribute to the leadership of you and the other mayors  
and everybody who contributes to to.

00:36:55;17 - 00:36:57;13  
Running and leading.

00:36:57;13 - 00:37:02;24  
So the Milken Institute recently recognized Ogden as the number two,

00:37:03;02 - 00:37:08;29  
economic area for in terms of economics of our size,  
the metropolitan statistical areas of our size.

00:37:10;09 - 00:37:11;22  
Salt Lake City was up there.

00:37:11;22 - 00:37:18;00  
I think they were number two  
or 1 or 2 as well in their in their size of, metropolitan areas. But,

00:37:19;01 - 00:37:20;08  
you know, that's something that we brag about.

00:37:20;08 - 00:37:21;23  
And it's not just Ogden's doing.

00:37:21;23 - 00:37:26;27  
Ogden is a part of that,  
but it's it was all the communities around us, too, right?

00:37:26;27 - 00:37:29;04  
And people were there's always critics.

00:37:29;04 - 00:37:31;19  
Oh, you're you're taking credit for things you didn't do.

00:37:31;19 - 00:37:33;19  
And it's like, I'm not saying I did all this.

00:37:33;19 - 00:37:38;22  
I'm saying we did it,  
and it's my responsibility to brag about it for everybody, right?

00:37:38;22 - 00:37:44;01  
And to make sure that I give credit to everybody when we do,  
because that's what Hill Air Force Base is relying

00:37:44;01 - 00:37:49;10  
on, is that we have a vibrant network of communities  
and mayors and councils, right.

00:37:49;21 - 00:37:58;15  
Supporting the mission on the base, doing all the work off base  
for the the ecosystem of contractors, their families, right.

00:37:58;15 - 00:38:00;17  
And the workforce that they need.

00:38:00;17 - 00:38:04;12  
That's the mission that they rely on and that we play for them.

00:38:06;11 - 00:38:08;16  
It's it's important, right?

00:38:08;16 - 00:38:13;22  
It's important for our future, but it's important for our nation.  
And whatever's important for our nation is important for world peace.

00:38:13;22 - 00:38:14;27  
That's just the fact.

00:38:14;27 - 00:38:20;11  
And so I've this job has given me a much better  
understanding of the role

00:38:20;11 - 00:38:25;20  
that we play in the mission of our military,  
and that's something that we should all be really proud of.

00:38:26;00 - 00:38:31;09

And we should unabashedly brag about and support and be cheerleaders for, right?

00:38:31;28 - 00:38:33;14  
National security.

00:38:33;14 - 00:38:39;20  
I've said before, it's a team sport,  
and national security is economic security and vice versa.

00:38:40;02 - 00:38:42;29  
And that starts at the basic community level.

00:38:42;29 - 00:38:48;25  
It starts with the families, with good paying jobs, with an education,  
the opportunity to achieve and contribute

00:38:48;27 - 00:38:54;06  
right to grow those communities,  
to make them more viable and better able to contribute.

00:38:54;15 - 00:38:59;17  
If we if we struggle economically,  
we're in a struggle to defend ourselves because we're trying

00:38:59;17 - 00:39:05;03  
to take care of more fundamental basic needs, and we're losing sight  
of the things that we need to do to defend ourselves.

00:39:05;03 - 00:39:06;05  
Right.

00:39:06;05 - 00:39:11;15  
And it is our military might is also a reflection of our economic  
might and power and strength and resolve.

00:39:11;26 - 00:39:12;25  
Right.

00:39:12;25 - 00:39:14;14  
The arsenal of democracy.

00:39:14;14 - 00:39:15;09  
There you go.

00:39:15;09 - 00:39:18;10  
Right here in this town, the contribution to the national defense.

00:39:18;10 - 00:39:21;18  
Well, I we appreciate everything you've done to contribute to that.

00:39:21;18 - 00:39:26;27  
You are, like I said at the beginning,  
you're a man of America, but you're a man of origin.

00:39:27;07 - 00:39:31;28  
You're not in, boy, a man of art and a man of America.  
You've made us so proud, Max.

00:39:31;28 - 00:39:34;10  
There's no place more American, right?

00:39:35;12 - 00:39:37;15  
It's I that's why I call it Ogden USA.

00:39:37;15 - 00:39:40;10  
I was just telling somebody this morning. I was in a podcast interview.

00:39:40;10 - 00:39:49;15  
They were interviewing me, and I just said, Ogden USA is a absolute  
representation of the United States of America.

00:39:50;10 - 00:39:53;20  
This is this hometown USA.

00:39:53;20 - 00:39:56;04  
I was so blessed to live here. Right.

00:39:56;04 - 00:39:58;20  
So before we go, I you gave me this.

00:39:58;20 - 00:40:02;00  
We talked a little bit about this mission before, before we started.

00:40:02;00 - 00:40:04;23  
But it's the, Homeless Veterans Fellowship.

00:40:04;23 - 00:40:07;19  
And you guys are working on a project in Ogden, right.

00:40:07;19 - 00:40:16;13  
So I, I, I, I'm not a part of that organization, but but acquainted with John Graff, who's the administrator of that that great organization.

00:40:16;13 - 00:40:18;04  
And it's a nonprofit.

00:40:18;04 - 00:40:26;04  
They have they have home facilities for homeless veterans and take care of them in, in many ways to help them gain self-sufficiency.

00:40:26;04 - 00:40:26;29  
If that's possible.

00:40:28;03 - 00:40:29;17  
But we we owe a debt to those

00:40:29;17 - 00:40:35;19  
who put on the uniform and swore an oath to defend this nation and and the care we have for them

00:40:35;24 - 00:40:42;03  
and the opportunities we give them when they serve in uniform doesn't always extend after the uniform comes off for for various reasons.

00:40:42;17 - 00:40:45;00  
Sometimes it's an unfortunate choice.

00:40:45;00 - 00:40:48;08  
And, sometimes the circumstances beyond their control.

00:40:48;08 - 00:40:52;22  
But they're in our community.  
They came from our community, or they made their way to our community.

00:40:52;22 - 00:40:58;07  
And to the extent we have the opportunity,  
the infrastructure, to to help them, we should do that.

00:40:58;07 - 00:41:05;03  
And so as I, you know, met and got to know John and visited their facilities, I said that's

00:41:05;03 - 00:41:10;12  
that's an organization and a mission that I certainly want to help and to shed light on here in this community.

00:41:10;27 - 00:41:19;14  
And so we're we're working to put together an open house to enlighten the community to, to their mission and the needs that they have.

00:41:19;14 - 00:41:23;10  
Because I know, I know this town, I know this community.

00:41:23;10 - 00:41:29;26  
When they recognize the need and the opportunity to help, they will make that work better and fulfill all the needs they have.

00:41:29;26 - 00:41:35;05  
It's just a matter of, you know, shedding some light on the situation they have and the needs they have.

00:41:35;23 - 00:41:41;17  
And whether it's construction companies who will help renovate their facilities, provide food, clothing.

00:41:41;17 - 00:41:47;14  
bedding, employment opportunities, housing opportunities  
for those that they can't, houses on premises there

00:41:48;00 - 00:41:54;01  
to get veterans back on their feet  
and to become as functional as they have the capability to do that.

00:41:54;01 - 00:41:55;28  
That organization is central to that.

00:41:55;28 - 00:42:00;15  
And we're very fortunate to have been there  
and have people who care to that degree.

00:42:00;15 - 00:42:04;01  
John is a United States Army veteran, West Point graduate.

00:42:04;01 - 00:42:08;17  
He's done some great work for our nation.  
And that didn't stop when he took the uniform off.

00:42:08;17 - 00:42:14;02  
And we're blessed that he saw fit to settle here  
and that he saw fit to become part of that organization.

00:42:14;02 - 00:42:16;29  
And so I would, we've talked about it.

00:42:16;29 - 00:42:22;21  
You know, I invite your support,  
and I know you will and will will use all of our influence to help

00:42:24;12 - 00:42:27;00  
them take care of our veterans.

00:42:27;00 - 00:42:30;16  
And we'll connect our resources  
here at the city with the resources are preparing there.

00:42:30;16 - 00:42:36;16  
And and what people don't realize is  
just how much work we do here in this city to support, homeless veterans

00:42:36;16 - 00:42:43;04  
and anybody that's homeless in our county, in our in our state,  
we host the, oh, my shelter,

00:42:44;12 - 00:42:46;12  
we have the Saint Anne's shelter.

00:42:46;12 - 00:42:51;20  
We have shelters for, military, for youth, for,

00:42:52;11 - 00:42:55;04  
abuse those who have suffered through abuse.

00:42:55;04 - 00:42:56;25  
And we continue to do more.

00:42:56;25 - 00:43:02;07  
And as we do that, we are always pushing and championing  
for every other city around us to do more to

00:43:02;25 - 00:43:08;03  
because we can't do we can't be the only one who does the lifting,  
and we get criticized when we don't do everything.

00:43:08;03 - 00:43:11;04  
If there's something that comes up and we don't do it,  
we get criticized for not doing that.

00:43:11;04 - 00:43:16;26  
And it's like we're doing our part and more,  
and we need everybody else to do the lifting with us, right?

00:43:16;29 - 00:43:20;07  
And we're going to continue to do more and continue to do our part.

00:43:20:07 - 00:43:22:03

Case in point, right.

00:43:22:03 - 00:43:26:24

Where you stand. Yes, we. Can we can give visibility to the more people.

00:43:26:24 - 00:43:32:28

Yeah, but these are the kinds of missions that more cities and more people needed to support, because we can't do it by ourselves.

00:43:33:06 - 00:43:39:16

We're going to continue to do as much as we can and support and the things that that are important, and we need everybody doing it with us.

00:43:39:16 - 00:43:42:02

And if you're not, we're not doing enough.

00:43:42:02 - 00:43:46:27

Right. The mission never ends.

So I appreciate the work that you're doing for the nation.

00:43:46:27 - 00:43:49:04

How proud you make us as a community.

00:43:49:04 - 00:43:51:22

I really appreciate how much you've influenced me. And,

00:43:53:04 - 00:43:56:03

enlightened me into the

00:43:56:03 - 00:44:00:08

the caliber of people that we have here

00:44:00:08 - 00:44:04:09

just by embodying in yourself. Max, you are,

00:44:04:09 - 00:44:06:15

you are the kind of man that that Ogden creates.

00:44:06:15 - 00:44:11:08

And you make us so proud of who we are and the kind of people we create and develop here.

00:44:11:08 - 00:44:12:12

Right.

00:44:12:12 - 00:44:14:21

And thank you for coming back to serve again.

00:44:14:21 - 00:44:20:00

I call that the servant cycle, where you when you give, then the world gets back to you and you're like, whoa, that

00:44:20:15 - 00:44:22:06

that gave me a little bit of a lift and a boost.

00:44:22:06 - 00:44:23:15

And then I got more to give.

00:44:23:15 - 00:44:25:14

And then the world gives you more.

00:44:25:14 - 00:44:29:16

Do you see how I'm sitting up? That's right. That's how you lift right?

00:44:29:16 - 00:44:30:28

That's how you lift others.

00:44:30:28 - 00:44:35:23

You give, you serve them and then they serve you back.

And we all live together. That's the ideal way.

00:44:35:23 - 00:44:40:27

I'll run out of time on this planet before I run out of ways that I can give back for everything I've been given.

00:44:40:27 - 00:44:41:23

Absolutely.

00:44:41;23 - 00:44:44;03

But I'll go out fighting. I love that mentality.

00:44:44;03 - 00:44:47;16

So we end every episode with a call to action.

00:44:47;16 - 00:44:55;22

I just want to make the call to action to look into the Homeless  
Veterans fellowship, to look into the project on the 23rd, Adams,

00:44:56;25 - 00:44:58;03

to find out ways that you can

00:44:58;03 - 00:45:03;14

participate and help support the mission of America  
by supporting the men and women who served America.

00:45:04;03 - 00:45:07;05

That's a great call to action, a great way to end our episode.

00:45:07;05 - 00:45:11;02

So much more  
you and I could have talked about. And we'll talk about it again.

00:45:11;02 - 00:45:15;14

But thank you for your service to our nation.  
Thank you for your service to organ USA.

00:45:15;14 - 00:45:17;12

You're welcome. You're worth it.

00:45:17;12 - 00:45:19;13

I thank you.

00:45:19;13 - 00:45:22;23

That is a that is a powerful response.

00:45:22;23 - 00:45:24;29

So there you have it.

00:45:24;29 - 00:45:30;08

Ogden City Mayor Bennett Wolski sitting down here with our friend  
and, hero Max Spitzer.

00:45:30;28 - 00:45:33;06

This is another episode of the Ogden Way.

00:45:33;06 - 00:45:37;26

Until next time, get out there, get active,  
get involved and and serve, serve others.

00:45:37;26 - 00:45:42;22

Serve them selflessly. That is the most selfish thing that you can do  
because they will serve you back.

00:45:42;22 - 00:45:43;29

God bless you. Ogden, USA.

02:00:42:06 - 02:00:46:05

I talk about all the at home for

02:00:46:05 - 02:00:47:04

today.

02:00:47:04 - 02:00:51;16

We got a lot of all.

02:00:51;16 - 02:00:56;18

I always think of must.

02:00:56;18 - 02:01:00;21

Have so much for the country.

02:01:00;21 - 02:01:02;25

We broke it down.

02:01:02;25 - 02:01:06;21  
That's right. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

02:01:06;21 - 02:01:08;20  
Proud of you. Yeah. Big time.

02:01:08;20 - 02:01:12;08  
And I think more people need to know about you.

02:01:12;08 - 02:01:14;20  
And not because I know.

02:01:14;20 - 02:01:16;29  
I know, you're not the kind of guy to brag.

02:01:16;29 - 02:01:20;27  
You're a humble man, but you've done a lot for the for the U.S.

02:01:20;27 - 02:01:24;26  
and for the world, and,

02:01:24;26 - 02:01:26;13  
Are you on. It?

02:01:26;13 - 02:01:29;10  
You know, it goes both ways.

02:01:29;10 - 02:01:32;13  
I, you know, I feel called to to tell my story.

02:01:32;13 - 02:01:38;12  
And it's not because it's about the great things  
Mac stats are did, but the things I was enabled and allowed to do,

02:01:39;11 - 02:01:41;16  
mostly because of the foundation of my life.

02:01:41;16 - 02:01:45;09  
And everything I've achieved is is Ogden is in Ogden.

02:01:45;09 - 02:01:47;10  
My parents were both civil servants.

02:01:47;10 - 02:01:49;29  
My dad worked at Defense Depot Ogden his whole career.

02:01:49;29 - 02:01:52;27  
My mom worked for IRS for for a time.

02:01:52;27 - 02:01:53;24  
My grandpa.

02:01:53;24 - 02:01:56;20  
My my mom's dad was a World War two enlisted flier.

02:01:56;20 - 02:02:03;21  
Flew over the China Burma India Theater and lived in in Ogden  
after he came home from the war and retired as a depot

02:02:03;24 - 02:02:06;13  
employee, mechanic at Hill Air Force Base.

02:02:06;13 - 02:02:13;04  
And everything that I grew up doing was centered around this great town  
its natural resources, its culture, its institutions.

02:02:13;21 - 02:02:18;09  
There was never a time  
when I wasn't going to go to Weber State University.

02:02:18;09 - 02:02:25;13  
My earliest recollection in life as a, as a three year  
old was the 100th anniversary, the centennial

02:02:25;13 - 02:02:33;10  
of the driving of the Golden spike, which not technically in Utah,  
but Utah was the the center of gravity of the the railroad industry.

02:02:33:10 - 02:02:36:04

And that happened, you know, in in our community here.

02:02:36:04 - 02:02:43:06

And I remember seeing that the two two engines fired up,  
driving a golden spike with everybody in their 1869 costumes.

02:02:43:24 - 02:02:46:25

When I was three years old in 1969.

02:02:46:25 - 02:02:51:27

So, you know,

I was born in the old Saint Benedict's Hospital, which are condos now.

02:02:53:18 - 02:02:55:00

My wife was living with me.

02:02:55:00 - 02:02:58:01

Oh, is that right? Yeah. So quality place, obviously.

02:02:58:01 - 02:03:03:22

Graduated from Bedlam in high school, product of Ogden City schools,  
and ultimately graduated from Weber State.

02:03:03:22 - 02:03:07:26

Before I set off on on the longer part of my Air Force journey.

02:03:07:26 - 02:03:13:08

living all over the world and moving every couple of years on average  
until we landed back here two years ago.

02:03:14:05 - 02:03:15:13

And now retired.

02:03:15:13 - 02:03:17:25

But yeah.

02:03:17:25 - 02:03:22:19

So yeah, so I was yeah, the  
the Air Force for some reason saw fit to promote me to general.

02:03:22:19 - 02:03:26:19

So I started as an E-1 and airman Basic with a high school diploma.

02:03:26:19 - 02:03:29:07

And I got to do everything in between.

02:03:29:07 - 02:03:36:22

And, served two tours at the Pentagon, including my last assignment  
the last four years before we retired and came back home.

02:03:36:22 - 02:03:40:01

And so I saw the most hands on tactical stuff.

02:03:40:01 - 02:03:44:23

I mean, literally, I was the janitor because that's the first thing  
the military teaches you how to do.

02:03:44:23 - 02:03:45:05

Right?

02:03:45:05 - 02:03:54:24

And, and ended up in the Swiss C-suite with global responsibility  
in supply chain, major weapon system sustainment policy and doctrine,

02:03:55:08 - 02:04:01:28

at that headquarters, Air Force on the Air Staff  
and the Joint Chiefs of Staff as a as a deputy for logistics there.

02:04:01:28 - 02:04:03:19

So amazing.

02:04:03:19 - 02:04:08:28

And and the reason I think that story is important  
is, again, Max didn't do all these things.

02:04:08:28 - 02:04:12:19

People saw value in me and potential in me that I didn't see in myself.

02:04:12;19 - 02:04:16;02  
And they were teachers here in Ogden. Coaches,

02:04:17;06 - 02:04:18;01  
leaders in

02:04:18;01 - 02:04:25;03  
the military, peers and people who outranked me, who pushed me along  
and pulled me along and gave me opportunities to do stuff.

02:04:25;03 - 02:04:31;20  
And in the end, that culminated in somebody having done all those things  
and being prepared to do the things I did.

02:04:32;05 - 02:04:35;18  
And, and that's that's what communities do for people.

02:04:35;18 - 02:04:39;03  
They produce the next generation of leaders,  
the next generation of Americans

02:04:39;03 - 02:04:42;25  
who produce the next generation of leaders  
and the next generation of Americans.

02:04:42;25 - 02:04:46;07  
And that's your first duty as a leader is to produce more leaders.

02:04:46;07 - 02:04:55;24  
And I know you're I'm your humble servant, and I know that you took  
a lot of self ownership and empowerment of your own.

02:04:56;10 - 02:04:58;26  
You took accountability for yourself along the way, too.

02:04:58;26 - 02:05:03;19  
You had to take advantage of those opportunities  
and the and the amount of support. Yeah, I'm sure. Right.

02:05:03;19 - 02:05:04;17  
They can't do it for you.

02:05:04;17 - 02:05:09;00  
Sure, they can support you along the way,  
but you did a lot of the work yourself, right?

02:05:09;00 - 02:05:12;22  
And you always will go further when you have help around us.

02:05:12;22 - 02:05:16;05  
And that's really at the heart of the way. That's right.

02:05:17;20 - 02:05:19;12  
It's not about politics done by Partizanship.

02:05:19;12 - 02:05:23;09  
It's about people and it's about us. It's about you, me and everybody.

02:05:23;09 - 02:05:28;19  
And we're trying to create an environment here for people  
to succeed in an environment where people have access to opportunities,

02:05:29;05 - 02:05:34;14  
and we need them to have that ownership and self-empowerment  
to take advantage of those opportunities.

02:05:34;15 - 02:05:38;22  
And when they do, they're going to have a community  
that's got their back. That's right.

02:05:38;22 - 02:05:39;26  
That's the work that we do.

02:05:39;26 - 02:05:41;23  
It's the work you're doing. Want to talk about your story?

02:05:41;23 - 02:05:45;11

That's right. Yeah.

02:05:45;11 - 02:05:45;28

That's what I did.

02:05:45;28 - 02:05:50;02

Does Ogden Ogden is the template for opportunity.

02:05:50;02 - 02:05:55;28

And as I get to work with,  
you know, people and organizations around here, Ogden Weber Tech, right,

02:05:56;01 - 02:06:01;12

about giving people the opportunity to grow and develop  
and do the most important work in our nation.

02:06:01;21 - 02:06:08;22

You know, so many times as a general, you're very prestigious  
and get opportunities to speak and people want to hear from you.

02:06:09;06 - 02:06:14;21

And so I made sure to relate stories again,  
not about all the amazing things I got to do,

02:06:15;06 - 02:06:18;00

but the perspective that gives you a serving at that level.

02:06:19;13 - 02:06:23;10

And and I would, I would talk about those, those very things.

02:06:23;10 - 02:06:23;17

Right.

02:06:23;17 - 02:06:26;21

Providing that kind of opportunity for people.

02:06:26;21 - 02:06:30;10

And I'd say, you know, it's amazing to serve at the Pentagon.  
You're at the highest level.

02:06:30;10 - 02:06:38;05

You get to see the things Americans are doing all over the world  
that matter every single day around the clock, 24, seven, 30, 65.

02:06:38;05 - 02:06:43;25

They put the uniform on and they're serving their families,  
their communities, and this nation as a whole.

02:06:43;25 - 02:06:50;09

And yet, as impressive as that is with all of our exquisite weapons  
systems, none of the work they do is more important

02:06:50;09 - 02:06:57;17

than what goes on in classrooms and in city offices and in universities  
and in industry at the local level,

02:06:58;01 - 02:07:03;09

because those are the foundation, our our defense department,  
our military is wholly dependent

02:07:03:09 - 02:07:09:03

on private industry to build the things and support them and innovate  
and get the technology we need in the hands of warfighters.

02:07:09;10 - 02:07:13;13

To me,  
it seems like a codependency. Yeah, we can't do this kind of work.

02:07:13;13 - 02:07:19;07

And in the classrooms and neighborhoods of our communities  
without the overarching protection and the freedom.

02:07:19;09 - 02:07:20;19

That's right. Right.

02:07:20;19 - 02:07:23;18

Our warfighters are our military and service.

02:07:23:18 - 02:07:23:26

That's.

02:07:23:26 - 02:07:25:06

Right for us.

02:07:25:06 - 02:07:29:18

Yet at the same time, we couldn't have that kind of weapon system. And,

02:07:30:22 - 02:07:32:13

you know,

02:07:32:13 - 02:07:38:16

the caliber of soldiers that we have and airmen and women  
without the schools in the communities developing just like you.

02:07:38:24 - 02:07:41:25

That's right. Yeah. The the. Pendants.

02:07:41:25 - 02:07:47:00

And that's what that's what community built in mutual  
dependance and reliance and our own fulfillment and goodness.

02:07:47:00 - 02:07:48:00

That's right.

02:07:48:00 - 02:07:54:18

And I you know, as, as I got the opportunity to lead  
and then subsequently command, airmen in our United States Air Force,

02:07:55:14 - 02:07:58:23

I recognized and knew and believed

02:07:58:23 - 02:08:03:23

they're the treasure of this nation, sons  
and daughters of American families who took an oath and swore

02:08:03:23 - 02:08:07:02

to defend this, this nation and everything it stood for.

02:08:07:02 - 02:08:14:24

And we've we've grown up and lived in a time where the military was pretty popular and it was popular and, you know, and still is, thankfully

02:08:16:00 - 02:08:18:21

for people to see you in uniform and thank you for your service.

02:08:18:21 - 02:08:22:00

You can't escape that. Not that you'd want to.

02:08:22:00 - 02:08:26:17

And my airmen would come to me and say, you know,  
they're all humble to for the most part.

02:08:26:17 - 02:08:28:07

And I'd say, I never know what to say.

02:08:28:07 - 02:08:32:28

I didn't join to be thanked.

And I would tell them, say what I say, you're welcome.

02:08:32:28 - 02:08:34:07

You're worth it.

02:08:34:07 - 02:08:40:27

Because only 1% of us get the opportunity  
to wear the uniform in this country and join the military.

02:08:41:11 - 02:08:46:10

And that means the other 99%

do all of the things that we swore to defend.

02:08:46:10 - 02:08:52:10

And so in the oath, it doesn't explicitly say it,  
but it's implied that we're defending not just the Constitution,

02:08:52:25 - 02:08:59:08

but our natural resources, our institutions, our cities,  
our towns, our schools, our culture, the things that we like to do.

02:08:59;08 - 02:09:05;01  
And being a citizen in this great republic is a team sport,  
and we should be grateful

02:09:05;01 - 02:09:11;00  
that it only takes 1% of us because of our economic system  
and because of our technological and military might.

02:09:11;17 - 02:09:18;20  
The 1% of us can cover the defense for all the rest of us,  
and we make sure that we're superior in every way.

02:09:18;20 - 02:09:23;29  
So that fight is an away game,  
so the enemy doesn't come on our soil and bring the fight here.

02:09:24;16 - 02:09:29;07  
You know, you make me think of something, Max, that we weren't  
planning on talking about this, but indulge me if you would,

02:09:30;09 - 02:09:35;12  
in my job, I'm here at, like, a smaller scale, community level.

02:09:35;12 - 02:09:37;28  
You were working at the Pentagon on the international.

02:09:37;28 - 02:09:43;07  
Obviously,  
the at the headquarters of National Leadership, world leadership.

02:09:44;17 - 02:09:45;05  
Yeah.

02:09:45;05 - 02:09:48;19  
You worked for a lot of different administrations left and right.

02:09:48;19 - 02:09:52;29  
You went through transitions.

02:09:52;29 - 02:09:57;09  
Yesterday I had an experience when we were dedicating field House.

02:09:57;09 - 02:09:59;29  
Yeah. To officer name I day.

02:09:59;29 - 02:10:02;23  
And I walked up to the podium to say my words and my hands were shaking.

02:10:02;23 - 02:10:06;06  
I was so nervous because I was staring back at my officers.

02:10:06;06 - 02:10:08;10  
There were so many. Yeah,

02:10:08;10 - 02:10:10;12  
a lot of them. New officer.

02:10:10;12 - 02:10:13;12  
Yeah. And served with him and were there.

02:10:13;12 - 02:10:15;09  
And I was like, I can't believe this.

02:10:15;09 - 02:10:17;12  
I cannot take this lightly. Right.

02:10:17;12 - 02:10:20;19  
And I got so in my head  
I was getting nervous. And I don't get nervous usually.

02:10:20;19 - 02:10:21;11  
Right. Yeah.

02:10:21;11 - 02:10:21;24  
But I had this.

02:10:21;24 - 02:10:27;23

Moment of like realization of the significance of my responsibility and stewardship of what?

02:10:28;18 - 02:10:32;11  
Of what I've inherited, but also what we're building and what we are responsible for stewarding.

02:10:33;10 - 02:10:36;01  
And that's such a small scale compared to what you were working at.

02:10:36;01 - 02:10:36;17  
Right.

02:10:36;17 - 02:10:40;10  
But it's also a more personal scale because I know the names of.  
That's right.

02:10:40;10 - 02:10:43;21  
Almost everyone that were in the room.

02:10:43;21 - 02:10:46;04  
Did you ever get a sense that, like

02:10:46;04 - 02:10:49;16  
when you're dealing with that level of significance, just the

02:10:49;16 - 02:10:54;00  
how inherently small politics seems?

02:10:54;00 - 02:10:55;02  
Yeah, yeah.

02:10:55;02 - 02:10:59;01  
The significance of the human capital and the people.

02:10:59;01 - 02:11:01:04  
Yes, absolutely.

02:11:01:04 - 02:11:07;06  
And it's, it's unfortunate the, the way things have  
I don't want to say progressed because it's not right.

02:11:07;07 - 02:11:08;28  
It's not really progress.

02:11:08;28 - 02:11:15;05  
But but the state that we find ourselves in here  
politically and the divisiveness and my,

02:11:15;05 - 02:11:21;28  
my observation and experiences, it's wholly manufactured  
because the great thing, you know, we

02:11:22;17 - 02:11:31;17  
we will always Revere the greatest generation, the folks who fought  
and won World War Two and defeated global fascism and gave us that.

02:11:31;17 - 02:11:36;19  
Everything that we've lived on  
and depended on in our lifetime, for sure.

02:11:36;19 - 02:11:44;18  
And I don't want a draft to come back, but that was a thing in World  
War One, World War Two, and up until the end of the Vietnam War here.

02:11:45;21 - 02:11:51;05  
And the really good byproduct of that was  
people were drafted from all over.

02:11:51;05 - 02:11:56;27  
So you take a kid from a farm and a kid from inner city,  
and a kid from one state and a kid from another state,

02:11:56;27 - 02:12:05;18  
and you know, different colors of pigmentation and skin and background  
and religions and everything and the wisdom and the time tested,

02:12:06;01 - 02:12:11;22

proven things that we do in the military to train people,  
throw them all together, put them through basic training

02:12:11;22 - 02:12:17;15  
and make them the same make make each of them  
an integral part of a unit, recognizing none are better or worse

02:12:17;15 - 02:12:20;14  
than than the others, no more important or anything like that.

02:12:20;14 - 02:12:25;06  
Regardless of your background, you're Americans  
and you're going to fight and win this war for us.

02:12:25;06 - 02:12:31;18  
And, the military has always been famously,  
steadfastly apolitical and nonpartisan.

02:12:32;04 - 02:12:37;28  
And unfortunately, in in recent years,  
the respect that was given the military,

02:12:37;28 - 02:12:43;18  
even within the halls of the Pentagon,  
has it's it's thinned significantly.

02:12:43;18 - 02:12:46;28  
And politics has crept in where it didn't exist before.

02:12:46;28 - 02:12:54;02  
And people have felt empowered and enabled to kind of demonstrate  
and fly the flag of their particular personal politics.

02:12:54;14 - 02:12:59;00  
And it is not a good thing for our military,  
and it's not a good thing for our nation.

02:12:59;00 - 02:13:08;10  
And, I, you know, I like some of the, the local offices  
and the political races that are held that you serve your community.

02:13:08;19 - 02:13:12;00  
And it's not even a Partizan political office. Right.

02:13:12;00 - 02:13:13;15  
But even that's starting to change.

02:13:13;15 - 02:13:16;29  
Yeah, yeah. It's been changing for a while.

02:13:16;29 - 02:13:19;12  
And it's one of the biggest challenges I have in this job is

02:13:20;25 - 02:13:24;09  
we see when you go home at night,

02:13:24;09 - 02:13:27;19  
turn on your TV or flip through your phone and look for the headlines.

02:13:27;19 - 02:13:30;01  
You're reading about national politics for the most part.

02:13:30;01 - 02:13:34;22  
If you're interested in the goings on in the world,  
you're just looking at national headlines.

02:13:34;22 - 02:13:39;12  
There's all kinds of media biases  
and spins this and that. And the other.

02:13:39;12 - 02:13:44;22  
And it just and I, my fellow mayors say this throughout the state,

02:13:45;20 - 02:13:50;28  
nobody can reach out to the president or Congress  
or or whatever the administration,

02:13:51;18 - 02:13:53;23

but they can reach their city council members. And.

02:13:53;23 - 02:13:56;12

That's right. And that's by design.

02:13:56;12 - 02:13:58;26

But we're not Washington DC either. Right?

02:13:58;26 - 02:14:02;14

That's right. We're all going USA. We're damn proud of that.

02:14:02;14 - 02:14:11;05

But if we keep trying to collect garbage and run a golf course  
and things like that, Partizan bent and with with

02:14:12;05 - 02:14:14;00

with with politics as our priority,

02:14:14;00 - 02:14:19;19

it we're not going to build our best and strongest community  
and we're losing sight of that as a country.

02:14:20;03 - 02:14:23;22

Certainly in this community, it's just keeps getting

02:14:23;22 - 02:14:27;29

poured into us all the time. Yeah.

And I'm spending more and more of my time battling Partizan politics.

02:14:27;29 - 02:14:33;12

It's driving me crazy because the more time we spend more energy,  
the less we're investing in our people, in our community.

02:14:34;00 - 02:14:35;09

Right.

02:14:35;09 - 02:14:41;12

And so anyway I think about that when you're in  
when you talk about your mission and in the Pentagon,

02:14:42;25 - 02:14:46;11

what an important mission that has to go on no matter what.

02:14:46;11 - 02:14:48;06

That's right. Right.

02:14:48;06 - 02:14:52;17

And I view the work of, of our city the same way. Yeah.

02:14:52;17 - 02:14:57;26

You know when, when an incident occurs here,  
you know, a fire that threatens houses,

02:14:58;07 - 02:15:04;26

nobody cares what political party or how the firefighters voted  
the first first responders or the owner of that house.

02:15:04;26 - 02:15:07;09

The community comes out and supports them

02:15:07;09 - 02:15:14;08

because just like in the military, the most, most important label  
you where it says United States Air Force, United States Army.

02:15:14;08 - 02:15:15;25

It says us first.

02:15:15;25 - 02:15:20;14

And it's like in in sports,

are you playing for the name on the front of the jersey or the back?

02:15:20;14 - 02:15:21;14

Right.

02:15:21;14 - 02:15:26;26

And, and that's, that's absolutely the, the case here locally.

02:15:26;26 - 02:15:35;26

And so, again,  
that that kind of manufactured rage and divisiveness and everything,

02:15:35;26 - 02:15:41;09  
it really evaporates here at the local level  
because people are actually neighbors and citizens.

02:15:41;24 - 02:15:47;03  
And the most important things that happen in  
this country are foundational to families and neighborhoods and towns.

02:15:47;22 - 02:15:52;19  
And everything above that level is kind of bloated infrastructure  
that, you know,

02:15:52;19 - 02:15:59;11  
maybe we could do with a lot less of  
and a little more of regular small town living like we enjoy here.

02:15:59;21 - 02:16:02;29  
That's why I'm looking at your shirt, a major Brett Taylor. Yeah.

02:16:02;29 - 02:16:05;14  
That's a partnership that I've treasured since I started as mayor.

02:16:06;16 - 02:16:08;21  
For all those reasons.

02:16:08;21 - 02:16:13;28  
When we fly that flag over Washington Boulevard,  
that is a huge citywide reminder

02:16:13;28 - 02:16:19;20  
of who we actually are  
and what we share in common and the and the mission that we all share.

02:16:20;22 - 02:16:25;15  
No matter what role we play, we should all be participating in a mission  
in the betterment of our of America.

02:16:25;15 - 02:16:29;27  
And whether you're left or right, up or down, I don't care.

02:16:29;27 - 02:16:31;22  
We're all here. We're all American.

02:16:31;22 - 02:16:35;19  
We're all a better future, you know? Yeah. That's why.

02:16:35;19 - 02:16:39;06  
That's why I wear a flag on my bill every day.

02:16:39;06 - 02:16:44;15  
That's why I partnered with the foundation  
to fly a flag over our city for pioneer days.

02:16:44;23 - 02:16:48;12  
And what a beautiful scene that was to for those those couple weeks.

02:16:48;12 - 02:16:53;14  
Can you just feel the difference?  
Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. It's that goes up.

02:16:53;14 - 02:16:57;06  
It's like a separate sun shining on our town. Yeah.

02:16:57;06 - 02:17:00;19  
It's like it replaces the sun.  
You forget about the sun and it's significant. Yeah.

02:17:00;19 - 02:17:02;01  
And you just think about the significance of

02:17:03;14 - 02:17:07;10  
I see a lot of change in people's spirit.

02:17:07;10 - 02:17:10;16  
I love that. Yeah. Favorite time of year. Yeah.

02:17:10;16 - 02:17:13;29

It is, it's it's one of the greatest honors I've ever been given.

02:17:13;29 - 02:17:20;20

And I've only been on the board of the Major  
Brant Taylor Foundation for the couple years since I moved back here.

02:17:20;20 - 02:17:22;12

And retired at home.

02:17:22;12 - 02:17:26;18

But but the story and the mission are very personal to me.

02:17:26;18 - 02:17:32;13

I was at the Pentagon at the time when Brant Taylor was killed,  
and I didn't know Jenny before,

02:17:32;27 - 02:17:41;21

and I reached out to her to express my condolences  
and to let her and her family know that his his loss and passing was

02:17:42;04 - 02:17:48;08

was a national tragedy, not just a North Ogden  
or an Ogden or a Weber County, or even just for their family.

02:17:48;08 - 02:17:52;10

Now they shoulder the brunt of the sacrifice that was made.

02:17:52;10 - 02:17:57;26

His his sacrifice of his life  
and their sacrifice of no longer having a father and a husband.

02:17:58;14 - 02:18:05;25

And so when we moved back here, Jenny moved with all due haste,  
to bring me onto the board of directors of that organization.

02:18:06;18 - 02:18:13;17

And, you know, it's it's important to recognize  
and remember and teach history.

02:18:13;17 - 02:18:19;23

And so the priorities of major  
Brant Taylor Foundation are to to train, honor and engage.

02:18:20;20 - 02:18:27;29

And in all of that centers around patriotism  
and the value and, and vital role of cities and communities.

02:18:27;29 - 02:18:36;04

And you can't lose the fact that he was serving as an elected  
mayor of his his community while he was a member of the Utah

02:18:36;04 - 02:18:43;16

National Guard, and was deployed on his on his fifth deployment  
when he was when he was unfortunately killed in service.

02:18:43;29 - 02:18:48;07

And that's that's noteworthy.  
A lot of people may may not know and recognize.

02:18:48;07 - 02:18:49;25

He was the first U.S.

02:18:49;25 - 02:18:53;17

elected official killed in action in the military since the Civil War.

02:18:55;21 - 02:18:59;07

It's it's not it's not that common

02:18:59;07 - 02:19:04;14

for for somebody to serve in that way  
with so many facets in their life.

02:19:04;14 - 02:19:10;02

Brant Taylor was was absolutely All-American,  
in every single way as a mayor,

02:19:10;02 - 02:19:15;11  
as a citizen, as a as a father, as a husband,  
in every single thing he did.

02:19:15;13 - 02:19:21;05  
And as they've built the organization  
and as I've been able to become part of it, the story goes back

02:19:21;05 - 02:19:26;29  
to his high school graduation in Chandler, Arizona, where he was the  
the senior class president.

02:19:27;06 - 02:19:33;09  
And the education we do in schools at the public school level, mostly

02:19:33;09 - 02:19:38;28  
in high schools, centers around the five principles  
that he espoused in his graduation speech.

02:19:39;11 - 02:19:46;16  
So that guy was was raised right in a great American family  
and a great community, and, and carried that through.

02:19:46;16 - 02:19:49;01  
So he had an amazing foundation.

02:19:49;01 - 02:19:54;29  
All those same conditions exist in this city  
and in every city, like, like Ogden.

02:19:54;29 - 02:19:57;03  
And so it's so important to teach that.

02:19:57;03 - 02:20:04;04  
And recognize it and then to continue to replicate it, because there's  
a Brett Taylor in every graduating class, in every school

02:20:04;14 - 02:20:10;13  
in this town and everywhere else in this country,  
and all the things he got to do by getting himself

02:20:10;13 - 02:20:18;09  
educated in universities, in the state and serving in a town, in this  
this county here, that opportunity exists for everybody.

02:20:18;09 - 02:20:21;25  
And somebody is going to do those things,  
and we want it to be the right person.

02:20:21;25 - 02:20:29;14  
And, we want to have a population that continues to value and model  
exactly what Brant Taylor represented.

02:20:29;14 - 02:20:32;17  
Yeah, it's all about service. Yeah. Right.

02:20:32;17 - 02:20:35;12  
It's amazing. If you watch the his high school speech,

02:20:36;19 - 02:20:40;24  
how far ahead he was in his wisdom for his.

02:20:40;24 - 02:20:45;28  
Oh my gosh  
I, I'm glad I didn't have to compete with him when I was in high school.

02:20:45;28 - 02:20:48;05  
And his speech was great. Yeah.

02:20:48;05 - 02:20:50;14  
He knew that the attention span.

02:20:50;14 - 02:20:53;12  
Yeah. Back then. And he's like, I'm going to make it.

02:20:53;12 - 02:20:56;06  
I'm going to make it sure if I'm going to make it matter.

02:20:56;06 - 02:21:00;17

And it matters because we're still talking about it I know 1997.

02:21:00;17 - 02:21:04;05

Yeah. Right. So I graduated two years prior.

02:21:04;05 - 02:21:06;14

High school nearby as well.

02:21:06;14 - 02:21:10;24

And to think back up to where I was at. Back then.

02:21:10;24 - 02:21:14;10

No nowhere near no no sir. No sir.

02:21:14;10 - 02:21:16;01

Well I'm glad you got here from Arizona.

02:21:16;01 - 02:21:20;04

As fast as fast as you could. So.

02:21:20;04 - 02:21:22;24

I came from a great place but I love. Yeah.

02:21:22;24 - 02:21:24;13

I'm so lucky. Yeah. To be here.

02:21:24;13 - 02:21:24;21

Yeah.

02:21:24;21 - 02:21:30;05

We're, we're blessed to have you and your family and, to keep in that we were state reputation up free state

02:21:30;15 - 02:21:35;14

personal to me and I appreciate that. So so with all of the,

02:21:37;09 - 02:21:38;18

with everything that you've learned

02:21:38;18 - 02:21:43;27

and gained through your career, through your life, through your upbringing here in Ogden.

02:21:44;04 - 02:21:46;04

What do you do with that new.

02:21:46;04 - 02:21:48;02

You're retired from military service.

02:21:48;02 - 02:21:50;15

Where,

02:21:50;15 - 02:21:52;04

Then you're looking to it's. Which is funny.

02:21:52;04 - 02:21:57;03

You're like, it's time to give back.

You've been giving back your tired life. Yeah.

02:21:57;03 - 02:21:58;29

And now you want to give back? Yeah.

02:21:58;29 - 02:22:02;29

I feel like I was given things and opportunities my whole career.

02:22:02;29 - 02:22:06;04

And now it's time to give back in for that.

02:22:06;04 - 02:22:07;16

Certainly, I worked hard.

02:22:07;16 - 02:22:08;17

That's not an easy career.

02:22:08;17 - 02:22:13;01

And for decades in the military, that's that's 220 year careers.

02:22:13:01 - 02:22:16:13

I could retire twice. I was so dumb. I only did it once.

02:22:16:13 - 02:22:19:06

But I knew where to come back to.

02:22:19:06 - 02:22:22:01

So, you know, overall, probably briefly

02:22:23:03 - 02:22:23:21

to, to

02:22:23:21 - 02:22:29:20

to summarize, my mission in the military as a leader  
is to put the capabilities we need in the hands of warfighters.

02:22:29:25 - 02:22:34:21

And whether you're at the lowest tactical level  
and you're given a mission and the equipment to do that,

02:22:34:21 - 02:22:41:16

you make sure your warfighters, the airmen, soldiers, sailors,  
Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and Space Force guardians, whatever service

02:22:41:16 - 02:22:48:07

you're responsible for, have have the stuff and the training  
and the leadership to go do their job on behalf of this nation.

02:22:49:13 - 02:22:54:01

As as I, you know, grew through the ranks  
and was given more responsibility, more authority

02:22:54:01 - 02:23:00:08

for budgets, larger organizations and portfolios and everything,  
that baseline never changed.

02:23:01:15 - 02:23:05:14

Put the things we need in the hands of warfighters  
so they can fight and win wars.

02:23:05:14 - 02:23:11:15

And as I retired  
and and had the opportunity to decide what my path forward would be,

02:23:12:05 - 02:23:19:11

you could probably nobody would criticize you for just retiring in  
tending your garden and mow your lawn and playing with your grandbabies.

02:23:19:29 - 02:23:23:01

And part of me wanted to do that very thing.

02:23:23:01 - 02:23:29:15

I was tired and I worked hard and,  
and it's a grind to to live and serve and work in Washington, DC

02:23:29:20 - 02:23:36:25

and two tours worth seven years is,  
you know, kind of exceptional and not normal as well. But

02:23:37:28 - 02:23:41:24

I couldn't I would have felt like a fraud if I hadn't done more.

02:23:41:24 - 02:23:48:14

For all the faith that was given to me, all the  
all the confidence people expressed in me and gave me the opportunity

02:23:48:14 - 02:23:53:23

to be that person who walked across that stage and retired,  
and I knew I still had gas in the tank.

02:23:54:05 - 02:23:56:29

You know, I know I'm almost 60.

02:23:56:29 - 02:23:59:13

I feel like I'm almost 40.

02:23:59:13 - 02:24:03:24

And I hope I continue to feel that way.

at least physically and mentally, you know?

02:24:03;24 - 02:24:09;13

And so I still had gas in the tank,  
and I recognized I could still have the same mission,

02:24:09;28 - 02:24:16;24

put the capabilities we need in the hands of warfighters  
in this Utah ecosystem here in aerospace, defense, deep tech,

02:24:17;16 - 02:24:23;27

manufacturing, higher education, all in all,  
the institutions that kind of contribute to the national security

02:24:24;11 - 02:24:29;19

and the defense industrial base of this nation exist here in some form.

02:24:29;21 - 02:24:35;15

And I could still work now from the outside with a different uniform  
on, and perform that same mission

02:24:35;28 - 02:24:41;06

and help the services and the Department of Defense  
and also hopefully greatly benefit this community,

02:24:41;06 - 02:24:47;12

because all of those things represent economies, jobs,  
quality of life, culture, all the things that come with that.

02:24:48;02 - 02:24:56;24

And, and so sometimes when I take a step back now over the past couple  
of years, I think I can be more effective than I ever was in uniform.

02:24:57;08 - 02:25:03;17

You know, they give you a rank and a title and, and at some points,  
you know, when you get to seniors, I was everybody has to listen to you.

02:25:03;17 - 02:25:08;02

Right. The generals always right. And it's always wise  
and their jokes are always funny.

02:25:08;02 - 02:25:14;27

And with that, with that behind you, people  
only recognize your character and your abilities and your motivation

02:25:15;15 - 02:25:23;01

and and so with, with that and with the great people in this community,  
in this ecosystem, I can leverage all that.

02:25:23;01 - 02:25:28;00

They give me a lot of difference and respect,  
and they want the general to help with their organization.

02:25:28;00 - 02:25:32;08

But, I recognize that's not me they're looking for help with.

02:25:32;08 - 02:25:34;24

It's what I can do with what I've been given.

02:25:34;24 - 02:25:37;01

And so that's that's my mission now.

02:25:37;01 - 02:25:42;25

And every organization I'm part of,  
whether it's a nonprofit like the Major Brant Taylor Foundation or,

02:25:42;25 - 02:25:49;01

you know, teaching and serving in different roles  
that we were state University all contribute to national security.

02:25:49;01 - 02:25:52;25

And if I can connect those dots,  
I'll always say yes to those opportunities.

02:25:54;01 - 02:25:55;09

Yeah.

02:25:55;09 - 02:25:57;21

That say, how did you see it again, putting the capabilities in the.

02:25:57;21 - 02:26:00;21

Hands of warfighters. Yeah,

02:26:00;21 - 02:26:03;20

that's that's a good way of summing up for your background.

02:26:03;20 - 02:26:08;00

But it's not too much different for describing leadership  
in almost any other setting.

02:26:08;00 - 02:26:12;05

It's right to try and give our workforce, to give our,

02:26:12;05 - 02:26:17;22

our people here in the city, to give our people in our community  
the things that they need access to the tools they need in order

02:26:17;22 - 02:26:18;21

to succeed.

02:26:18;21 - 02:26:24;21

That's the that's the job of leaders to empower and to support  
and to give what they need in order to succeed.

02:26:24;21 - 02:26:28;01

Their successes are 100% theirs, right? Yeah.

02:26:28;01 - 02:26:30;13

And so but that's how you say it in.

02:26:30;13 - 02:26:32;29

Yeah. We're jointly different.

02:26:32;29 - 02:26:35;20

So if anybody is listening  
you're in you're not in the military background.

02:26:37;00 - 02:26:37;22

We're still people.

02:26:37;22 - 02:26:38;26

Yeah.

02:26:38;26 - 02:26:42;01

And and you know look look at how we recruit in the military.

02:26:42;01 - 02:26:46;25

What what what are on the ads and the posters. All the hardware.  
Because that's sexy, right?

02:26:46;25 - 02:26:54;14

People want to fly an F-35 at Hill Air Force Base or operate  
a tanker or, you know, a weapon or small arms or technology.

02:26:56;01 - 02:26:57;03

We want on that.

02:26:57;03 - 02:27:01;06

Yeah, but how about how about a football? Yeah.

02:27:01;06 - 02:27:03;27

So so that's why I joined.

02:27:03;27 - 02:27:09;07

But you quickly recognize  
if you should make that transition and the conditioning and realization

02:27:09;07 - 02:27:15;04

should happen, that no matter what your technical specialty  
is, you're in the people business, you're in the people business.

02:27:15;04 - 02:27:17;05

There's there's nothing to your job.

02:27:17;05 - 02:27:21;26

But being in the people business

and the people are the citizens of this, this community.

02:27:21;26 - 02:27:23;15  
And it's all about exactly that.

02:27:23;15 - 02:27:29;09  
Given the resources, the structure, the policy that benefits them,  
that benefits the economy, their quality of life,

02:27:29;09 - 02:27:32;24  
and their ability to pursue life, liberty  
and the pursuit of happiness. Right.

02:27:32;24 - 02:27:37;24  
All those guaranteed rights endowed by our creator  
and guaranteed by our Constitution.

02:27:37;24 - 02:27:39;13  
That's why I got to share a stage with you. And

02:27:40;12 - 02:27:41;08  
yeah.

02:27:41;08 - 02:27:43;21  
On behalf of the Major Brant Taylor Foundation

02:27:43;21 - 02:27:50;08  
teaching leadership principles to our youth,  
we had student body leadership from every school district.

02:27:50;29 - 02:27:51;26  
That's right.

02:27:51;26 - 02:27:56;15  
And we were  
we were all asked to to share a portion of the message from right.

02:27:56;15 - 02:28:01;07  
Taylor's high school speech.  
And then I shared kind of the summary. That's right.

02:28:01;07 - 02:28:07;08  
That was a, that's the kind of work that the Foundation does that a lot  
of people don't see that doesn't you don't see that in the flag flying.

02:28:07;18 - 02:28:10;09  
That's right over Coldwater Canyon.

02:28:10;09 - 02:28:14;09  
But you see that in the kids that we have our community. Right?

02:28:14;09 - 02:28:18;12  
That's the the building, the next generation. Yeah.  
And you cultivate that then.

02:28:18;12 - 02:28:24;00  
So they become a board member on the Major  
Brant Taylor Foundation or the chairman one day, or their own nonprofit.

02:28:24;16 - 02:28:25;21  
That's right. Yeah, right.

02:28:25;21 - 02:28:29;29  
That's right. I asked  
how many here. What a run for mayor. Yeah, quite a few kids. Yeah.

02:28:29;29 - 02:28:31;15  
Number of which I'd coach. Yeah,

02:28:32;18 - 02:28:33;06  
yeah, yeah, it's.

02:28:33;06 - 02:28:37;11  
Fun to see. That was a fun day. Yeah. That's the kind of rewarding work  
we get to do. That's right.

02:28:37;11 - 02:28:42;04  
So as we look to our future here in Ogden

and we look at our proximity to Hill Air Force Base,

02:28:42;04 - 02:28:46;02

we look at the significance of the mission of Hill  
Air Force Base in the world.

02:28:46;02 - 02:28:48;14  
Theater.

02:28:48;14 - 02:28:52;05

Tell us a little bit about the opportunities we have in Ogden,

02:28:52;05 - 02:28:55;12

given that proximity and the support that we as a community.

02:28:55;12 - 02:28:57;01

Yeah, sure.

02:28:57;01 - 02:29:02;06

You know, their Hill  
Air Force Base is is vital to the defense of this nation.

02:29:02;06 - 02:29:07;05

And, there are 51 mission partners at Hill Air Force Base.

02:29:07;05 - 02:29:08;26

They're not all Air Force.

02:29:08;26 - 02:29:12;01

They're they're not all, you know, warfighting units.

02:29:12;01 - 02:29:16;24

There are a lot of enablers and things like that.  
And certainly a lot of the community that's on the air, contractors.

02:29:16;24 - 02:29:20;28

So they're civilians  
who work and live in the community and do work that supports

02:29:22;00 - 02:29:22;26

national defense.

02:29:22;26 - 02:29:28;04

And all the programs that are run at Hill  
Air Force Base, Hill Air Force Base and the Pentagon

02:29:28;14 - 02:29:35;03

both have about 26,000 people that go in and out the gates  
and the doors of that installation every single day.

02:29:35;16 - 02:29:38;15

And a lot of them live in in Ogden City.

02:29:38;15 - 02:29:48;01

And it's no mistake in, I think, 1940 when when they came and found  
that the location for that base and made it the military installation

02:29:48;15 - 02:29:54;29

that they named it the Ogden Air Materiel Area, though  
it's not in the corporate limits of Ogden City.

02:29:55;12 - 02:29:57;00

That's the major town.

02:29:57;00 - 02:30:02;09

And the most influence on on how that organization has progressed  
through history is the city of Ogden.

02:30:03;02 - 02:30:08;11

And, and so when when you talk to people throughout the Air Force  
and you're talking about the depots,

02:30:08;19 - 02:30:14;05

one of three of which is here at Hill  
Air Force Base, you refer to that as Ogden, right?

02:30:14;15 - 02:30:24;07

F-16s, F-35s, F-22s eighteens, C-130s and intercontinental ballistic

missiles, depot maintenance, repair and overhaul happens at Ogden.

02:30:24;13 - 02:30:25;02

Right?

02:30:25;02 - 02:30:33;00

People know and understand the vital role of Ogden City in that base, and it will always be the case.

02:30:33;24 - 02:30:37;17

This will always be the center of gravity with Weber State University here

02:30:37;17 - 02:30:42;22

with Ogden Weber Tech and and a lot of the other supporting and enabling industry here.

02:30:42;22 - 02:30:49;24

The Ogden Airport, Ogden Hinckley airport, right, is vital to have a second airfield nearby.

02:30:50;07 - 02:30:55;07

If we needed a national emergency and, you know, for other, other ways that that benefits.

02:30:55;07 - 02:31:00;15

And there's a significant number of defense industry on the premises of Ogden Airport.

02:31:00;15 - 02:31:07;16

It's a great facility, a great location contiguous to I-15, and the other manufacturing that happens here.

02:31:07;16 - 02:31:10;01

And so that that presence has continued to grow.

02:31:10;01 - 02:31:16;06

Recognizing Ogden is a place where people want to live so they can work in those places nearby.

02:31:16;18 - 02:31:24;13

The quality of life is here the recreation, the culture, the arts, the natural resources and beauty and everything that we get to enjoy here.

02:31:25;26 - 02:31:30;27

We we moved every two years on average until our 15th move brought us back.

02:31:30;27 - 02:31:33;29

Back here, back to my hometown, two years ago.

02:31:33;29 - 02:31:38;08

And every every town says we give our military installation the best support.

02:31:38;08 - 02:31:41;17

And this community's different and better.

02:31:41;17 - 02:31:45;16

They can say that because they don't understand and they haven't all been here and seen this.

02:31:45;16 - 02:31:50;25

But but I can tell you objectively, the truth is there's something different

02:31:50;27 - 02:31:56;03

and better and special about this community that doesn't exist in other places.

02:31:56;03 - 02:32:01;14

And and it's because the culture and the foundation that exists here

02:32:01;18 - 02:32:09;14

in this city that has existed since it was founded, the pioneer spirit from the first settlers here, the people,

02:32:09;14 - 02:32:17;05

you know, when you grow up and live here, names you see on the buildings that Weaver state and around this town, Des Eccles, Stewart's.

02:32:17;05 - 02:32:20;28

Lindquist. Right on and on and on. One.

02:32:20;28 - 02:32:23;05

And it's important to recognize their story.

02:32:23;05 - 02:32:29;10

If you're in the military, you might not know or recognize any of those foundational names from Ogden.

02:32:29;17 - 02:32:35;21

But if you're in the military, you know, John Moses Browning and what he did and what he represented.

02:32:35;21 - 02:32:41;00

And so, you know, in the military, we name buildings and facilities after people.

02:32:41;03 - 02:32:48;25

And I would always challenge my airmen say, hey, you work in, you know, just just say, for example, you work inside John Hall.

02:32:48;25 - 02:32:54;02

Do you know Captain Landside John Story and say, no. And I say, you walk through those doors every day.

02:32:54;02 - 02:32:58;29

Why don't you learn who he is and why we saw fit to name a building after him?

02:32:58;29 - 02:33:03;13

I would issue the same challenge for people in this community who were the Eccles?

02:33:03;13 - 02:33:08;16

Who were the linguists, who were the Brownings? What did they do for us and what are they continuing to do?

02:33:08;16 - 02:33:11;27

I mean, literally through centuries now,

02:33:11;27 - 02:33:18;08

you know, from back in the 1800s to now, in this day and age, our baseball field is name Lindquist.

02:33:18;22 - 02:33:23;01

Find out what that family has represented and done for this community.

02:33:23;01 - 02:33:28;10

And then consign yourself to preserving their legacy

02:33:28;13 - 02:33:33;23

for the institutions that they built, preserving them and building on them as a citizen of this community.

02:33:34;06 - 02:33:38;01

Of industry and manufacturing and banking and finance. Yeah. Finance.

02:33:38;01 - 02:33:39;11

Titans of innovation.

02:33:39;11 - 02:33:40;29

Yeah. Right out of the city.

02:33:40;29 - 02:33:45;17

Brant Scowcroft. Right. National security advisor, retired Air Force Lieutenant general,

02:33:47;01 - 02:33:51;06

a worldwide no name for his role in national security and in politics.

02:33:51;06 - 02:33:55;18

The good kind of politics.

02:33:55;18 - 02:33:59;11

That's the that's what we don't often give ourselves credit for.

02:33:59;11 - 02:34:05;27

But I want to go back to the point that you made earlier that that when you think about Air Force Base, you think about Ogden, and there's

02:34:05;27 - 02:34:12;10

some separation between Ogden and the base, and there's other cities and communities nearby, but we're still all Ogden to a degree.

02:34:12;10 - 02:34:13;13

Yeah.

02:34:13;13 - 02:34:15;24

Even if you live in Clearfield, you're Clearfield City resident.

02:34:15;24 - 02:34:17;11

You you fly that flag?

02:34:17;11 - 02:34:19;29

Yeah, probably. I'm sure, I hope.

02:34:19;29 - 02:34:23;19

And yet you still have an association and attachment to Ogden.

02:34:23;19 - 02:34:30;01

And I want ardent to have that same affinity and attachment to Clearfield and, and and that's why

02:34:30;01 - 02:34:37;07

I've put a lot of energy into building relations and, and having a close and, and a collaboration coordination with neighboring mayors.

02:34:37;21 - 02:34:42;04

Because when people look at us, they don't just look at Ogden City and our boundaries.

02:34:42;04 - 02:34:47;25

We are relying on the well-being and the prosperity of the neighboring communities, and they're relying on us for the same.

02:34:48;12 - 02:34:53;20

We have a lot of resources that they need in their times of need, like when there's a fire on the hillside.

02:34:53;22 - 02:34:57;22

We provide a lot of the first responder resources to help support North Ogden.

02:34:57;22 - 02:35:00;07

Right. And a pleasant view. And so

02:35:01;28 - 02:35:03;14

at the same time,

02:35:03;14 - 02:35:09;05

they provide a lot of homes for families and workforce, right, that come into our downtown.

02:35:09;05 - 02:35:15;18

Right in our restaurants that come in and house all of our employers to workforce.

02:35:16;03 - 02:35:19;13

I mean, we are all more reliant on each other than we give ourselves for.

02:35:19;13 - 02:35:24;22

And as we're looking at our economic strategy and I just had a meeting this morning with my top leadership team

02:35:25;01 - 02:35:27;15

talking about an economic strategy that we're putting together.

02:35:27;15 - 02:35:32;02

It's rooted in what are the things that we're missing. But what are the opportunities are right there?

02:35:32;02 - 02:35:37;06

What are we poised for  
and prepared to take advantage of defense and aerospace

02:35:37;06 - 02:35:40;25

industry? Right. We're already going after a big time.

02:35:40;25 - 02:35:43;05

We've got to double down on that. Right.

02:35:43;05 - 02:35:45;21

But we've got to think about ourselves more about the bigger,

02:35:46;21 - 02:35:48;13

economic area,

02:35:48;13 - 02:35:53;22

metropolitan statistical area and the role that we play as a city  
and the downtown that we play for Northern Utah.

02:35:54;04 - 02:35:57;06

Right. We are. Northern Utah is downtown. That's right.

02:35:57;06 - 02:35:58;19

There isn't another one like ours.

02:35:58;19 - 02:35:59;10

That's right.

02:35:59;10 - 02:36:04;13

And everybody's counting on us to thrive,  
and we're counting on them in order for us to thrive.

02:36:04;13 - 02:36:08;19

And we've got to have a more macroeconomic outlook and the just us.

02:36:08;19 - 02:36:12;05

Yeah, those in those other cities are really good.

02:36:12;05 - 02:36:15;04

And all all the same events and venues and things.

02:36:15;04 - 02:36:17;13

We go to Mark Sheppard from Clearfield

02:36:17;13 - 02:36:23;17

is there and Brandon Stanger from, from from Clinton  
is there, you know, and, and all the other mayors and everything.

02:36:23;17 - 02:36:25;27

But but but you have one up on them.

02:36:25;27 - 02:36:28;15

Ogden's the county seat for Weber County.

02:36:28;15 - 02:36:32;24

So it's the super city and yeah, for sure.

02:36:32;24 - 02:36:39;06

But, you know, again, in the military just,  
you know, just like sports teams and everything, you have a rivalry.

02:36:39;16 - 02:36:42;29

And if you have the same mission  
and you're working on the same military base,

02:36:42;29 - 02:36:48;19

you still have a rivalry with among and across units and everything,  
but you're on the same team.

02:36:48;20 - 02:36:49;13

Exactly.

02:36:49;13 - 02:36:52;12

You know,

you get the same patch and the same color uniform and everything.

02:36:52;12 - 02:36:54;25

And that is absolutely the case here.

02:36:54;25 - 02:37:02;00

They recognize we're completely interdependent,  
in, in all the right ways and every,

02:37:02;00 - 02:37:07;28

every person, every organization  
and even cities are lopsided in some ways and have strengths in others.

02:37:08;10 - 02:37:09;27

And you bring them together

02:37:09;27 - 02:37:15;10

and, you know, and you and you pick and choose and you cultivate  
the best parts of everything to make the total community.

02:37:15;10 - 02:37:18;24

And that's exactly how things are around here, exactly how that happens.

02:37:18;24 - 02:37:26;01

And it's a tribute to the leadership of you and the other mayors and  
everybody who contributes to to running and leading those communities.

02:37:26;04 - 02:37:29;25

So the Milken Institute recently recognized Ogden as the number two,

02:37:31;22 - 02:37:32;29

economic area for.

02:37:32;29 - 02:37:33;16

Right.

02:37:33;16 - 02:37:38;25

In terms of economics of our size,  
the metropolitan statistical areas of our size.

02:37:38;29 - 02:37:40;11

Salt Lake City was up there.

02:37:40;11 - 02:37:46;18

I think they remember 2 or 2 as well in their,  
their size of their, metropolitan areas. But,

02:37:47;21 - 02:37:48;27

you know, that's something that we brag about.

02:37:48;27 - 02:37:52;06

And it's not just Ogden's doing. Ogden's a part of that.

02:37:52;06 - 02:37:56;12

But it's  
it was all the communities around us, too, right? And people were.

02:37:56;12 - 02:37:57;24

There's always critics.

02:37:57;24 - 02:38:01;14

Oh, you're you're taking credit for things you didn't do. It's like,  
yeah.

02:38:01;14 - 02:38:03;22

And I did all this and said, we did it.

02:38:03;22 - 02:38:07;13

And it's my responsibility to brag about it for everybody. Yeah, right.

02:38:07;13 - 02:38:10;16

And to make sure that I give credit to everybody when we do,

02:38:10;16 - 02:38:17;07

because that's what Hill Air Force Base is relying on, is that  
we have a vibrant network of communities and mayors and councils, right.

02:38:18;12 - 02:38:20;24

Supporting the mission on the base,

02:38:20;24 - 02:38:26;15

doing all of the work off base  
for the the ecosystem of contractors, their families.

02:38:26;26 - 02:38;29;07  
Right, right. Workforce that they need.

02:38;29;07 - 02:38;34;16  
That's the mission they rely on and that we play for them.

02:38;35;01 - 02:38;37;05  
It's it's important right.

02:38;37;05 - 02:38;42;06  
It's important for our future, but it's important for our nation  
and whatever support for our nation is important for world peace.

02:38;42;06 - 02:38;43;17  
Yeah. It's just the fact.

02:38;43;17 - 02:38;51;18  
And so I've this job has given me a much better  
understanding of the role that we play in the mission of our military.

02:38;51;18 - 02:38;52;07  
Yeah.

02:38;52;07 - 02:38;54;20  
And that's something that we should all be really proud of.

02:38;54;20 - 02:38;59;16  
And we should unabashedly brag about and and support and be Julius Baer.

02:38;59;16 - 02:38;59;29  
Right.

02:38;59;29 - 02:39;08;11  
But national security, I've said it before, it's a team sport,  
and national security is economic security and vice versa.

02:39;08;22 - 02:39;11;19  
And that starts at the basic community level.

02:39;11;19 - 02:39;17;17  
That starts with with families, with good paying jobs,  
with an education, the opportunity to to achieve and contribute

02:39;18;01 - 02:39;23;06  
and grow those communities, to make them more viable  
and better able to contribute.

02:39;23;06 - 02:39;26;15  
If we if we struggle economically, we're in a struggle.

02:39;27;14 - 02:39;30;07  
Because we're trying to take care of more fundamental.

02:39;30;07 - 02:39;34;24  
That's right. And we're losing sight of the things that we need to do  
to defend ourselves. Right.

02:39;34;24 - 02:39;40;03  
And it is our, our military might is also a reflection of our economic  
might and power and strength and resolve.

02:39;40;04 - 02:39;41;19  
That's right.

02:39;41;19 - 02:39;43;04  
Arsenal of democracy.

02:39;43;04 - 02:39;46;29  
And that exists right here in this town,  
the contribution to national defense.

02:39;46;29 - 02:39;50;14  
Well, we appreciate everything you've done to contribute to that.

02:39;50;14 - 02:39;55;12

You are, like I said at the beginning,  
you're a man of America, but you're a man of honor.

02:39:55;12 - 02:40:00;01  
But you're a man of God in command of America.  
You mean so, so proud, man.

02:40:00;01 - 02:40:00;16  
Yeah.

02:40:00;16 - 02:40:05;20  
There's no place more American than Ogden, Utah and Weaver County. Yeah.

02:40:05;20 - 02:40:06;05  
That's right.

02:40:06;05 - 02:40:09;27  
I was just telling somebody  
this podcast interview, they were interviewing me,

02:40:10;26 - 02:40:12;16  
and I just said,

02:40:12;16 - 02:40:18;03  
Ogden USA is a absolute representation  
of the United States of America.

02:40:19;00 - 02:40:22;19  
This is this is hometown USA. That's right. Here.

02:40:22;19 - 02:40:24;24  
So blessed to live here. That's right. Right.

02:40:24;24 - 02:40:27;12  
So before we go, I you gave me this.

02:40:27;12 - 02:40:30;05  
We talked. Yeah. About this mission before

02:40:30;05 - 02:40:30;21  
we started.

02:40:30;21 - 02:40:34;29  
It's the homeless veterans fellowship,  
you guys to work on a project and.

02:40:34;29 - 02:40:36;08  
That's right.

02:40:36;08 - 02:40:41;03  
So I, I, I, I'm not a part of that organization, but but acquainted

02:40:41;03 - 02:40:45;01  
with John Graff,  
who's the administrator of that that great organization.

02:40:45;01 - 02:40:46;22  
And it's a nonprofit.

02:40:46;22 - 02:40:54;22  
They have they have home facilities for homeless veterans and  
take care of them in, in many ways to help them gain self-sufficiency.

02:40:54;22 - 02:40:56;09  
If that's possible.

02:40:56;09 - 02:41:04;13  
But we we owe a debt to those who who put on the uniform  
and swore an oath to defend this nation and the care we have for them

02:41:04;13 - 02:41:10;25  
and the opportunities we give them when they serve in uniform, doesn't  
always extend after the uniform comes off for various reasons.

02:41:11;07 - 02:41:16;22  
Sometimes it's an unfortunate choice and,  
sometimes it's circumstances beyond their control.

02:41:16:27 - 02:41:21:14

But they're in our community.

They came from our community, or they made their way to our community.

02:41:21:14 - 02:41:26:28

And to the extent we have the opportunity,  
the infrastructure, to help them, we should do that.

02:41:26:28 - 02:41:33:22

And so as I, you know, met and got to know  
John and visited their facilities, I said that's

02:41:33:22 - 02:41:39:01

that's an organization and a mission that I certainly want to help  
and to shed light on here in this community.

02:41:39:15 - 02:41:48:03

And so we're working to put together an open house to enlighten  
the community to, to their mission and the needs that they have.

02:41:48:03 - 02:41:51:28

Because I know, I know this town, I know this community.

02:41:51:28 - 02:41:58:15

When they recognize the need and the opportunity to help, they will  
make that organization better and fulfill all the needs they have.

02:41:58:15 - 02:42:03:26

It's just a matter of, you know, shedding some light on the situation  
they have and the needs they have.

02:42:04:14 - 02:42:10:08

And whether it's construction companies  
who will help renovate their facilities, provide food, clothing,

02:42:10:08 - 02:42:16:06

bedding, employment opportunities, housing opportunities  
for those that they can't, houses on premises there

02:42:16:20 - 02:42:22:22

to get veterans back on their feet  
and to become as functional as they have the capability to do that.

02:42:22:22 - 02:42:24:18

That organization is central to that.

02:42:24:18 - 02:42:29:04

And we're very fortunate  
to have them there and have people who care to that degree.

02:42:29:04 - 02:42:32:13

John is a United States Army veteran, West Point graduate.

02:42:32:13 - 02:42:37:06

He's done some great work for our nation.  
And that didn't stop when he took the uniform off.

02:42:37:06 - 02:42:42:21

And we're blessed that he saw fit to settle here  
and that he saw fit to become part of that organization.

02:42:42:21 - 02:42:45:18

And so I would, we've talked about it.

02:42:45:18 - 02:42:50:29

You know, I invite your support, and I know you will  
and will use all of our influence and visibility

02:42:50:29 - 02:42:54:21

to help that organization and their mission  
and take care of our veterans.

02:42:54:21 - 02:42:59:16

We owe them. And we'll connect our resources here at the city  
with the resources. Yeah.

02:42:59:16 - 02:43:03:15

And what people don't realize is

just how much work we do here in this city to support,

02:43:04;16 - 02:43:06;02  
homeless veterans and anybody

02:43:06;02 - 02:43:11;25  
that's homeless in our county, in our in in our state,  
we host the, homeless shelter,

02:43:13;04 - 02:43:15;06  
we have the Saint Anne's shelter.

02:43:15;06 - 02:43:20;15  
We have shelters for military, for youth, for

02:43:21;04 - 02:43:23;27  
abused. That's right.

02:43:23;27 - 02:43:25;17  
And we continue to do more.

02:43:25;17 - 02:43:30;26  
And as we do that, we are always pushing and championing  
for every other city around us to do more to.

02:43:30;26 - 02:43:34;13  
Yeah. Because we can't do it. We can't be the one who does nothing.

02:43:34;13 - 02:43:36;23  
And we get criticized when we don't do everything. Yeah.

02:43:36;23 - 02:43:39;25  
If there's something that comes up and we don't do it,  
we get criticized for not doing that.

02:43:39;25 - 02:43:43;00  
And it's like we're doing our part. Yeah. And more.

02:43:43;00 - 02:43:44;28  
And we need everybody else to do the lifting with us.

02:43:44;28 - 02:43:48;27  
You you lift. You to do more and continue to do our part.

02:43:48;27 - 02:43:49;24  
Case in point.

02:43:49;24 - 02:43:50;10  
That's right.

02:43:50;10 - 02:43:55;19  
You lift where you stand and the more people we can,  
we can give visibility to, the more people who can lift.

02:43:55;23 - 02:44:01;18  
These are the kinds of missions that more cities  
and more people needed to support, because we can't do it by ourselves.

02:44:01;20 - 02:44:06;19  
That's right. You need to do as much as we can and support  
and the things that that are important.

02:44:06;19 - 02:44:11;12  
I mean, everybody doing it with us.  
And if you're not, we're not doing enough. That's right. Right.

02:44:11;12 - 02:44:15;18  
The mission never ends.  
So I appreciate the work that you're doing for the nation.

02:44:15;18 - 02:44:17;25  
How proud you make us as a community.

02:44:17;25 - 02:44:20;12  
I really appreciate how much you've influenced me. And,

02:44:21;25 - 02:44:24;24  
enlightened me into the

02:44:24:24 - 02:44:28:28  
the caliber of people that we have here.

02:44:28:28 - 02:44:32:28  
Just by anybody and yourself. Maxwell, you are,

02:44:32:28 - 02:44:35:20  
You are the kind of man that creates you.

02:44:35:20 - 02:44:40:09  
You make us so proud of who we are,  
the kind of people we create to develop here. Right?

02:44:40:09 - 02:44:43:11  
I agree. Yeah. Thank you for coming back to serve again.

02:44:43:11 - 02:44:45:04  
I call that the servant cycle. Where you.

02:44:45:04 - 02:44:49:05  
That's right. When you give, then the world gets back to you. Yeah.

02:44:49:05 - 02:44:50:27  
It gave me a little bit of a lift in the past.

02:44:50:27 - 02:44:52:04  
And then I got more to give.

02:44:52:04 - 02:44:53:22  
And then the world gives you more.

02:44:53:22 - 02:44:58:06  
That's right. I'm sitting up. That's right. That's how you lift, right?

02:44:58:06 - 02:44:59:03  
That's how you lift others.

02:44:59:03 - 02:45:04:11  
Who you give, you serve them,  
and then they serve you back. And we all live together. Okay.

02:45:04:11 - 02:45:09:25  
I'll run out of time on this planet before I run out of ways  
that I can give back for everything I've been given. So.

02:45:10:02 - 02:45:11:12  
But I'll. But I'll go out fighting.

02:45:12:25 - 02:45:15:15  
So we end every episode with a call to action.

02:45:15:15 - 02:45:16:07  
Yeah.

02:45:16:07 - 02:45:20:28  
I just want to make the call to action  
to look into the Homeless Veterans fellowship.

02:45:20:28 - 02:45:21:29  
Thank you.

02:45:21:29 - 02:45:25:16  
Thank you. John Adams. That's right.

02:45:25:16 - 02:45:31:29  
To find out ways that you can participate and help support the mission  
of America by supporting the men and women who serve America.

02:45:32:22 - 02:45:35:25  
That's a great call to action, a great way. Thank you for. That.

02:45:35:25 - 02:45:39:22  
So much more you and I could have talked about.  
And we'll talk about it again. Yes, sir.

02:45:39:22 - 02:45:41:11  
But thank you for your service to our nation.

02:45:41;11 - 02:45:43;20

Thank you for your service talking to us.

02:45:43;20 - 02:45:47;19

Thank you. You're welcome. You're worth it.

02:45:47;19 - 02:45:48;03

Thank you.

02:45:48;03 - 02:45:52;11

That is a that is a powerful. Yeah. So there you have it.

02:45:53;18 - 02:45:55;08

Ogden City mayor.

02:45:55;08 - 02:45:59;18

Sit down here with our friend and, hero Max Stitzer.

02:45:59;18 - 02:46:03;05

This is another episode of the Ogden Way. Until next time.

02:46:03;05 - 02:46:07;26

Get out there, get active,  
get involved and and serve. Serve others serving selflessly.

02:46:07;26 - 02:46:12;20

That is the most selfless thing that you can do  
because they will serve you back. God bless you Ogden USA