

2020 Johnson County Board of Supervisors Candidate Questionnaire

1. **Why are you running and what are your priorities if elected?** To bring my fiscal oversight and common-sense leadership to the board and provide a new perspective and a voice for ALL residents of Johnson County. I have lived and worked in agriculture or the skilled trades in Johnson County all my life. My priorities are to support law enforcement and first responders and the rule of law, advocate for our county's mental health needs, work to improve our county's water quality, support and encourage businesses of all kinds and all sizes, be an ally for farmers and all residents instead of an adversary, be fiscally responsible with our county resources and conduct county business in an open and transparent manner.
2. **How would you facilitate a continued favorable economic environment for your community?** The previous statements withstanding, I have owned and operated a business in Johnson County since 1997 and I believe the Board would benefit from my blue collar background and my commitment to expanded trades education and opportunities in our community.
3. **How do you feel about the current government regulatory environment and how might you improve what is currently in place?** People who navigate the county system must have a clear roadmap with no surprises. We must improve the county's relationship with the community and staff by working cooperatively and respectfully with everyone. Supervisors must recognize they represent the entire county not just the large population centers. We need to recognize the delicate balance with regulation and policy and the effects they have on the actual business environment and the community. It must be a fair and even playing field for all involved.
4. **What are your thoughts on TIF funding for projects that enhance economic growth and are you favorably disposed as to how this has been utilized by current and past councils?** As to TIF funding for projects, they can have a tremendous benefit to the economic growth of a community when properly utilized. As to past and present use of TIF by the Board of supervisors, there are some opportunities for its utilization for enhancing low income housing projects which should be explored. As a former School board member, I will add that it is important that any tax shortfalls created by TIFs are properly backfilled.
5. **How do you plan to address the issue of affordable housing in your community?** Real estate values in Johnson County are among the highest in the state. Being a BIG 10 college town with a transient student population, it provides great challenges with addressing the issue of affordable housing. There are many avenues we can pursue which can involve planning and zoning, regulatory and incentives, but I am interested in hearing from developers, realtors, homebuilders on their ideas and proposals and seeing how best it fits into the balance of neighborhoods, schools and the community, and the effects it will have on our local municipalities and the quality of life in our community.
6. **How do you plan to engage our membership to further enhance our area?** I have always been an advocate for the trades and trades education in Johnson County and nationwide. In fact, the cornerstone of my school board advocacy was expanding trades opportunities for the students in our school district. The Home Builders Association in Iowa City has been a huge supporter and proponent of the trades and their efforts with our homebuilding program in the Iowa City community was model and an example for others to follow. I feel the fact that I have

actually worked in the trades myself, would be a benefit to the Board of Supervisors. When I was a school board member, I closed my shop every Friday from noon to 1 for anyone in the community to come and discuss issues. I did that as an unpaid volunteer. As a paid representative for Johnson County as a supervisor, I will always make myself available and when elected, will have planned open office hours for the community to discuss any issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questions. Should you seek clarification, or further explanation, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone: 319-430-9373.

Thank you for your consideration.