

Tony Jacobelli

For county commission:

- What things does the county need to work on, and how would you contribute to those efforts?

Affordable, quality housing. I will use my engineering/building knowledge/experience to help assure residential housing developments meet both criteria.

Getting the homeless the temporary help they need but not allowing it to become a way of life - by tracking both individual and program efficiency and accountability..

Eliminating programs that have no productive outputs or clear benefit to the county, i.e. accountability of social programs to name just one.

- What areas do you think the county spends too much money on? What areas should they be spending less?

Social programs that have had no little or no recorded results toward improvements of those they are chartered to help.

Better use of bond funds for construction/improvement of school buildings. Schools should be built using existing, proven plans and not customized for each campus. Up-front costs like architecture and design could be greatly reduced. Build multiple schools at the same time using the same plans, thus getting volume discounts on labor and materials at every level.

- Earlier this year, the Supreme Court passed a ruling that allows for municipalities to fine or ban unhoused people for being in public spaces. What relationship should the county commission have with the county's homeless community?

Temporary, constructive, and efficient assistance to get them onto a path for responsible citizenry.

Municipalities should not be encouraging or condoning a lifestyle of homelessness, but providing the temporary help needed to get them out of homelessness, permanently.

- Do you support tax increases to support school infrastructure or teacher pay?

No. The \$1.7B bond was supposed to support infrastructure and those who budgeted those expenditures should be help responsible for their accuracy. Throwing more money at it is not the solution. Re-allocate what was already budgeted.

Reducing bureaucracy and bloated administrative positions within the school system could free up enough money to be be used for attracting and retaining good teachers. Optimizing programs like free breakfast/lunch and transportation of students are just 2 areas that need improving.

- Do you have any personal or professional relationships that would be a conflict of interest? How would you navigate them as a county commissioner?

You mean like being a teacher and being a board member that controls the county contribution to the school system??

No, I have no conflicts of interest and anyone on the board that has them should not be on the board. That does not fly in the private sector. And I suspect that applies to more than just school system employees.

- Guilford County candidates: What's your take on a 1-percent prepared food tax that

No more taxes! Either eliminate county funded programs that don't work, or improve them so that they do work.

The county needs to spend the money they have to get things they need. Not fund things they want and then fund them with more tax increases.

Every productive citizen is required to live within their own budgets. Why should the county be allowed to behave any differently?

Bottom line, require accountability of the monies being spent and then you won't need new taxes.