

1. What do you think is the economic impact of the home building industry in our community?

The home building industry in Fayetteville and Cumberland County is an economic catalyst for our community. I will not pretend to know the current numbers but will reference a study conducted by JUD & Associates for year 2005. The “Economic Impact of Residential Real Estate Development in Cumberland County” prepared in August 2006 for 2005 provides the following figures. 2,251 new jobs, \$99.6 million in personal income and \$22.7 million in tax revenues for the county and municipalities. Here in 2007 heading into 2008, my understanding is that these figures have increased and will continue to increase with the recent BRAC decisions and our current growth rate.

2. How do you see the home building industry fitting in as stakeholders in the decision making process?

The home builders should be allowed a voice during discussions concerning rezoning, ordinance or policy revisions that directly effect their profession and services. Citizens and other organizations should also be allowed a voice in the process. As an elected leader, I want to hear from all parties to better understand the impacts of the decisions I make. I’ve worked on several multidisciplinary staffs and for me, the more I understand from the various stakeholders effected by the issue the better I’m able to make informed decisions.

3. Please explain how you favor PWC.

PWC has a separate charter approved by our State Legislative body. Any change to their operating procedures requires approval from the Legislature. Since PWC is Fayetteville’s Public Works Commission I support money going back into the city budget. Extending PWC utilities is paramount to urban development infrastructure requirements. Where the sewer lines go, typically development follows for urban area infrastructure standards.

4. Do you agree with the current proposed timeline and plan to provide services to the newly annexed areas? What are the priority services and how do you propose to pay for them?

No. However, according to Fayetteville all involuntarily annexed areas are currently receiving all state mandated city services. PWC water and sewer are not city services according to Fayetteville’s legal staff and NC general statues. According to the laws and statutes as currently worded, water and sewer are pay as you receive type services so the city has met the “letter of the law” for involuntary annexations. I am not happy with the current timeline for the extension of sewer and water services. I believe a more comprehensive analysis needs to be conducted to set priorities for sewer extension projects. If one looks at the topography of the land, lot size, soils and underground water tables, one can make educated analysis of which areas without sewer and water are most likely in need of sewer before other areas.

5. What is your position on joint planning with the city and county and metro government?

I believe joint planning is essential to our community as we continue to grow our municipal areas. We must balance quality of life infrastructure with the homebuilders ability to make a living. No more retrofitting areas that clearly are being built to urban standards next to municipalities. Given our current NC annexation statues, we must be smart in how and where we build adjacent to municipal boundaries when those developments are built to the NC definition of urban (2.3 persons per acre).

I'm part of the "We the People" group looking at our government structure. I support studying services that might be combined to provide monetary savings and improve government efficiency. Right now, it is too early to use the word Metro or Consolidation as the study is just beginning and will continue for another 18-24 months.

6. Do you consider it acceptable, as a city standard, to install strip and asphalt paving with no concrete curbing on unpaved streets in the city? If yes, explain why it is acceptable for the city to have one set of standards for the unpaved streets located in the city and a different set of standards for private industries?

I believe each case deserves separate analysis as no two projects are exactly the same. In some cases rolled curbing is fine and other cases not. Many things need to be considered. The topography of the land, existing natural or manmade drainage mechanisms, character of the area, historic storm water runoff, adjacent soils and existing green space, type of roads and their traffic counts, retrofitting versus new development and the list goes on. Each case is different and should be evaluated on the merits of the case.

7. What is your stand on the current county sales tax referendum?

I prefer a ¼ cent sales tax over a land transfer tax. I am not happy this referendum is not tied to a 2 cent reduction in property taxes. I have not made my final decision and will continue to listen to the county commissioners and continue reading articles like the one the John Locke Foundation has provided before casting my vote on November 6th.

8. What is the city's role in preparing for the BRAC recommendations that will affect our community?

The city needs to fund the CCBC each year for the services agreed for them to perform. The Brac Regional Task Force and our local regional task force are doing an excellent job and the city needs to ensure funds are available to help lure development into Cumberland County and Fayetteville. We cannot miss out on this wonderful opportunity for economic development compliments of our Federal Government.

9. What is your position on term limits for elected city officials? Would you favor maximum consecutive terms?

I support term limits and do favor maximum consecutive terms for council members. I like 6 years (3 terms) but no more than 8 years (4 terms) as a maximum.

10. What experience do you have that qualifies you to evaluate and establish the city budget?

In my 22 years of military service I participated in number budget cycle submissions and understand the difference of must fund items versus nice to fund items. State laws requires mandatory funding for several items and programs. Others are based on historic needs, required upgrades (life cycle replacements), current needs, emergency needs, future needs based on projected growth and also the numerous nice to have funded quality of life projects. No one councilmember has all the answers. I will review city staff's cost analysis and their recommendations concerning the myriad of needs and wants our city continuously faces. When the City Manager presents a proposed budget to me, I'd analyze it line-by-line and ask for justification and or clarification of any item within the proposed budget that I do not fully understand.

11. If elected what are your top two priorities during your term?

Neighborhood protection - speeding, blight, safety, quality of life.

Smart growth and planning leading to increased economic development.

12. List your accomplishments in the non-political arena.

Twenty-two years of service in the U.S. Army as Cartographer, Terrain Analyst and Terrain Analysis Technician. Several awards and decorations. Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). Retired 1 June 2004.

Taught map reading to middle school students at Saint Patrick School and the won the state competition during the annual Science Olympiad competition.

Vice President of the Cumberland County Citizens United (CCCU).

Single parent since summer of 1997. Son currently in 8th grade at Anne Chesnutt Middle School.

Represented (pro-bono) citizens before Fayetteville City Council and won their contested rezoning cases.