



# QUESTIONNAIRE & RESPONSES

FIRST NAME:  LAST NAME:   
SEEKING TO BE ELECTED TO:

## GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. **While in office, what will be your top priorities?** Public Safety, Infrastructure, Responsible Growth, and Parks and Recreation
2. **What influenced you to run for office?** It has been something I've wanted to pursue since I was in high school. I studied political science through my college career and now after running my families business for 20+ years, I have the time and the experience and I feel like I can truly contribute.
3. **Who do you look to for advice and consult when making decisions that will affect the public?** I would turn to the authorities in the field that decisions were being passed on for their opinions, concerns, and ideas. I am not a realtor so I don't feel I can make a firsthand decision that would affect a realtor and their career/business. I own a local business so I feel I am best suited to firsthand make decisions based on small local business owners. If something is getting passed that involves law enforcement or fire rescue I would need to speak one on one with those people that would be directly effected.

## GOVERNMENT / BUSINESS REGULATIONS

1. **What are your thoughts on government's involvement with regulations for businesses?** There is absolutely a place for government regulation. Work place safety should be regulated, facilities cleanliness should be regulated, in-discriminatory and fair business practices should absolutely be regulated, but when the government steps beyond those certain areas and starts to tell a business how it should run and starts to limit what that business can do the government starts to suffocate the business and eventually its will die.
2. **Where do you see yourself on taxes and fees? What is your opinion on the current structure?** Business tax makes up the majority of our tax bracket as it should because a business actually earns revenue to offset the tax they pay but it should not carry all the burden. Individuals that get every subsidy available and pay low to no taxes should be made to step up go to work and help offset the huge amount that businesses pay.
3. **Do you believe businesses play a pivotal role in our community?** "Without a doubt. They play one of the most important roles. They are the glue that binds everyone together. They are the food, the clothes, the fuel, the recreation, the hospitals and doctors, the tax revenue, the "a
4. **What role do you see for yourself in helping to grow businesses of all sizes in your position?** b
5. **What are the most pressing issues in the office you are seeking as it relates to local businesses?** c's" that every village revolves around. Businesses and the people in the community are a symbiotic relationship though. They both have to exist in harmony or neither will survive. "
6. **What does growth mean to you as it relates to business?** By encouraging both local and larger businesses to expand their footprint, to open that second or third store, to move here from out of town, by trying to find them available grants, and to ease some restrictions so relocating or expanding here doesn't seem impossible. And to grow area responsibly. We don't need 5 sandwich shops in a single plaza. They would be doomed from the start.
7. **What have you done to enhance the business community in your area?** From my personal experience one of the biggest issues is the overwhelming focus on a major corporation coming to town over supporting and growing local business. The idea of don't expand you're just a local business a big company will buy your property. When we decided to remodeled all of the chips seemed to be stacked against us and its was a 2 year up hill battle. 4 of the 5 contractors we interviewed actually refused the job because Port Orange was so hard to deal with. It seemed like the system is structured to get the local owner to eventually sell out. I would like to be the person that helps bring these people back to the city and make the business owners feel wanted, need, and like the city is here to help not hinder their growth.
8. **What are your thoughts on tax structures for local businesses?** You cannot grow a population if the infrastructure and businesses are not sufficient to support said number of citizens. A city with 15,000 citizens can

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not build 2000 new homes if there is only one grocery store, one pharmacy, one hospital, one restaurant, etc. This is the symbiotic relationship I spoke about earlier.  
The population and the business must grow together or they will both fail.

### RESILIENCY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

1. **Given our geographical area, what do you believe are some best practices for resiliency, and how do you believe our businesses can play a role?** I pride myself in the fact that we lead by example. We give back to nearly every local organization. Veterans, youth sports, performing arts, all local schools, you name it. I feel that other local businesses see the things that our 44 year old business is doing and the not only respect it but look to our "brand" and attempt to imitate it.
2. **Climate resiliency is becoming a heated topic of discussion as it relates to our community given the natural events that occurred over the past two years. If elected, how do you see your office assisting to alleviate and reduce some of the detrimental effects of such occurrences?** Business absolutely need to pay their taxes.  
Should they carry 100% of the city tax burden absolutely not.  
I'm fine with the taxes I currently pay as are multiple other local business owners I am friends with.  
Would I like to pay less sure, do I feel I need to pay more NO WAY! More taxation will never guarantee more prosperity and growth. It will more than likely drive up the cost that people charge for their goods and services in an attempt to offset the higher tax rate.

### WORKFORCE HOUSING / LIVE LOCAL ACT / EMPLOYMENT

1. **There have been conversations about workforce housing in our area, and the need to keep those that are working in the community, living within the community. Where do you see the need? And what are your thoughts on the Live Local Act?** If we're speaking solely about the weather, sun, salt and the problems it causes in our area, the business owners need to start to take a proactive approach. They need to maintain their building and grounds, consider installing that generator, the sun and salt air play hell on buildings and equipment as well as AC units. Business owners need to implement a regular maintenance schedule on everything they own and have. The number of people moving to the area is not slowing down so that door that got opened 5000 last year may be opened 12000 this year. Business owners need to maintain, improve upon and grow their business and business's infrastructure on the front side before it happens.
2. **Workforce housing is only a part of the problem. How can we hire the best employees? How do we attract good applicants?** Unfortunately I can't control the weather, even though I wish I could, but in office I do feel I can proactively control the maintenance of our lift stations, the cleaning and removal of debris from our canals and drainage areas regularly, and to make sure our flood and water run off plan is designed around adequate enough to support the population of the city of Port Orange. I would also like to take another look to make sure our people have all the equipment the need and that it's all in proper working order to get the job done.  
Even though reactive is never a good thing in these case it's inevitable. Once the natural event has taken place I can make sure the roadways are cleared as quickly as possible so the people that need to take action have unobstructed roads as well as getting power restored in a fast manner.

\* \*\* For State Candidates Only \*\*\*

### PROPERTY INSURANCE (STATE CANDIDATES ONLY)

1. **Name ways that you believe your office can assist with the cost of property insurance.**
2. **Do you believe current measures taken to lower insurance, such as, reducing frivolous lawsuits, will have a positive impact? If not, how so and how can it be fixed at the local level?**