

# Candidate Questionnaire - Thompson's Station

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What is your motivation for seeking election to the Thompson's Station Board of Mayor and Alderman (BOMA)? How does your background and experience qualify you to hold this position? \*

I grew up in and around Thompson's Station, so this has been home for me off and on for most of my life. I'm motivated by my love for this community and desire to see it grow and thrive. That is what drove me to run for office four years ago and continues to drive me as I seek re-election.

My experiences over the last four years in office make me uniquely qualified in this race as the only experienced candidate. I have a deep understanding of the issues facing this town and understand how we need to address them so that the town is poised for success. My background in sales and marketing are helpful as we approach economic development and how we present the town to interested developers.

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What should be the top priorities for Thompson's Station over the next four years? How would you address and/or fund these priorities? \*

The top priorities for the town are economic development and infrastructure. The town needs to determine its identity so that we can begin to get strategic about commercial development. Commercial development is key as we look at the town's finances and its desire to keep property taxes low. Sales tax revenue is necessary to making that happen. So to that end, we need a solid economic development plan to help guide the town in its commercial pursuits.

Infrastructure is also key – as it is with any growing area. The town is currently in the midst of several infrastructure projects including the expansion of the wastewater treatment facility and the widening of Critz Lane. We have other projects on the horizon as well as priority is determined and funding is made available. Most of the infrastructure projects will be funded through developer impact fees, with shortfalls being made up through sewer rates in the case of the wastewater plant and the town's general fund for the road improvements.

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What is your vision for residential and commercial development in Thompson's Station over the next decade? What steps will you take to help ensure that road and other infrastructure needs keep up with growth? \*

We need a responsible mix of both residential and commercial development to accomplish our financial goals. We have a very well thought out land development ordinance that dictates where and what type of development is allowed throughout the town. I think that's a key to establishing that mix. The residential development is important as a driver to attract commercial business, but we also have to be mindful that balance is required. Commercial development should serve this community, not the other way around. Thompson's Station is a very special place and we do not want it to be like the communities that surround us. We want to stand out on our own.

As a member of the utility board we have already done the heavy lifting to ensure the new wastewater plant will be built. This has been a top priority of this past year. Without the new plant, there would be no new development happening in the town. I've also been very active with the road projects helping to negotiate the town's deal with a local developer who is contributing money towards the cost of the project.

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What role should the Thompson's Station BOMA play regarding promoting economic development opportunities? \*

The town should be very active in promoting economic development, but we have to figure out what our identity is first. We know what we don't want to be as a town, but it's not as clear what people do want Thompson's Station to be. Once we figure that out we'll be able to better work on the commercial development side of things to try and attract desired businesses to the community.

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Do local governments in TN need broader taxing authority granted from the General Assembly? Does Thompson's Station? If so, what specific revenue-generating options would you support? \*

Thompson's Station residents have made it very clear they are not interested in paying more taxes, so I don't think that's the way to go. The town recently addressed its impact fees to bring them more in line with the town's current needs. I believe this will be the best way to accomplish much of our capital work provided the development market stays strong.

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Are there any REALTORS® supporting your campaign? \*

Yes. We have several REALTORS® that live throughout town and many have expressed support of me and my campaign.

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Are you accepting contributions from a Political Action Committee (PAC)? \*

I'm not actively soliciting contributions for my campaign, though I'm glad to accept them from those that wish to pledge their support.

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