

Bill James for County Commission

Mecklenburg's Consistent Conservative

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Welcome Steele Creek residents to
the newly *expanded* District 6



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Dear Republican Voter:

Over the last several years America has headed down a very dangerous path akin to a car running towards a cliff, the driver unable or unwilling to slow down or change a course our leaders know is wrong. After evaluating the current state of our national and local problems, and considering the retirement of Commissioner Pendergraph, I decided to run again to provide a consistent conservative voice in Mecklenburg County. Due to redistricting, District 6 has expanded and now includes the Steele Creek area in Southwest Mecklenburg.

In December I learned about a new candidate that was also going to run for the Republican nomination. While competition is a good thing, upon review of his non-existent primary voting record, it seemed clear to me that any individual who declines to vote in his party's primaries for the 10 years he has been in Charlotte isn't really a Republican. District 6 needs someone who will stand with them in the Republican Primary voting booth as well as on taxes, immigration and other matters. It is disrespectful to rank and file GOP voters and our candidates to ignore the ballot box while the rest of us stand facing the elements to exercise our right to vote.

I don't believe in raising funds unless they are needed for campaign purposes. For that reason, I have not sent out requests over the last few years but now that I know that this individual is running, I too must start the process of raising funds to keep District 6 in conservative hands. Times are hard but we will use your money wisely.

Regarding my accomplishments:

- To begin with, I have worked to cut the current tax rate and to stop unfair revaluation tactics. I opposed the onerous tax rate set by the Democrats. This rate raised an additional \$70 million in taxes at a time that taxpayers, facing the worst recession in 70 years, could ill afford that extra tax burden. In addition, the revaluation process forced homeowners to pay taxes on higher values even if they were being appealed. I believe that is wrong. Taxes should NOT be due on values that are under appeal.
- During the past 12 months I have worked to stop the landfill expansion in Ballantyne helping reverse an original 8-1 board vote.
- I also succeeded in my 15 year goal of establishing a 'bond fund' for county government.
- In addition to the budget, there are big decisions to be made over the next several years including the amount of bonds to be sold for school construction, issues with pre-trial release programs, contracting (outsourcing) of government services, and what to do with criminals the state refuses to accept.

Recently, the Mayor has pushed the idea of 'consolidation'. While it sounds reasonable, it is the opposite of Thomas Paine's statement in 'Common Sense', published in January 1776; *"Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one."* President Thomas Jefferson is often quoted as saying; *"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government."* I agree with both these men.

Allowing two large bloated and frankly unaccountable independent governments that do separate things to merge to make one even larger and more unaccountable one seems insane. I have said however that the major issue for me regarding consolidation is that I will not allow suburban voters to be double taxed by using consolidation to fleece them.

Looking ahead, Mecklenburg County needs someone that will take a stand and be that consistent conservative voice; someone unafraid to stand on principle. I believe I am the best candidate for the job and ask for your vote and your support. Enclosed is a reply card. As always, Julie and I welcome your help and ask for your vote on May 8th, 2012.