

Candidate Background:

1. Please tell us about you and your family. What are your qualifications, skills, and experience? Tell us about your faith, your civic involvement, and about any character traits that will help you be an effective alderman or mayor.

I am a retired orthopaedic surgeon and married to a Franklin original, Linda Crowell Moore. We have lived here since 2004. We have five children, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

I have been involved with politics throughout my career working on health policy at both the state and federal level. I have helped with many elections of Republicans through the years from Lamar Alexander, Bill Frist, Bill Haslam, Bill Haggerty, Charles Sargeant, and Sam Whitson to name a few. Linda and I have had the opportunity to host many events at our home through the years and even hosted an event for Dr. Ben Carson.

My qualifications are that I have experience in a broad area of skills having served as Mayor since 2011. I am involved with the Regional Transit Authority, Greater Nashville Regional Council, Chair the Mayors' Caucus of Middle Tennessee, Solid Waste Task Force, the Air Board, and the Transportation Policy Board. I have been honored to be named Mayor of the Year for Tennessee and have received several leadership awards locally and across the state. I am particularly proud of having received the Charles M. Sargent Leadership Award.

My wife and I worship at Franklin First United Methodist Church and I have taught Sunday School in the past. We are supportive of many local non-profits including Friends of Franklin Parks, Heritage Foundation, Mercy Clinic, Brightstone, Graceworks, Next Gen, and the Refuge Center for Counseling.

I have spent my entire career listening to people as a physician and also as Mayor. My record will show that I have led with a steady hand at the wheel of the City. The City has received numerous accolades while I have served as Mayor and it is a reflection of a great city team.

2. Why are you running? I want to continue to lead the City to be a place where people want to live, work, and raise a family. We live in a very special place and I want to continue to work to insure that it is available for our children and future residents of our City.

Scope and Role of Government:

1. What is your view about the U.S. Constitution and how it should be interpreted? It is a sacred document for our Country and should continue to be our guidance. We have the Judicial Branch that is asked to interpret it often.

2. What does liberty mean to you? How does government influence liberty? Liberty is the opportunity to be free in a society to live your life, be a productive citizen, and contributor under the laws of our land. Government's role is to provide those services that we as individuals cannot provide for ourselves.

3. What is the primary role of government? Support and enable an orderly and productive society.

Franklin Governance:

1. What are the three most critical issues facing Franklin today and how would you propose that Franklin address each issue? 1. Housing-support of local initiatives for the Franklin Housing Authority and encourage more work force housing with walkable neighborhoods, 2. Infrastructure-Continue to do long term planning on infrastructure needs and prioritize them and match them a funding source. 3. Workforce-Continue supporting a business-friendly initiatives with the Chamber and the State Office of Economic Development. I have been and will continue to be involved in all of these areas.

2. Do you have any concerns about how city officials are appointed? What involvement, if any, should the BOMA have in recommending and/or approving appointments? I suppose you are referring the various commission and committee appointments that are approved by the Board upon my recommendation. As Mayor, I seek to appoint citizens with skills and expertise that would help the commission or position that they are seeking. The process is advertising for a letter of interest, reviewing the applicants, and interviewing the best ones. I then suggest these to the

BOMA who approves them. I seek to involve new people with their skills. I try and give a brief oversight of the qualifications to the board and in the past have shared their bios. There are very few appointments that I make that do not require board approval.

If you are referring to City employees in leadership positions, this is under the direction of the City Manager. The only person that the Board hires and supervises is the City Manager.

City Finances:

1. What concerns do you have regarding Franklin's finances and how would you propose they be resolved? Franklin is an Aaa credit by two rating agencies. We have financial policies and benchmarks that we follow. We are regularly recognized for expertise in budgeting by rating organizations. I am proud that we project our capital projects over a ten-year period and match it with financial modeling on how we will pay for them. I always have a concern that our finances are so dependent on sales tax and state shared tax. Property tax is the lowest in the state for a city our size.

Growth and Infrastructure:

1. What is your commitment to the Envision Franklin document? What changes would propose, if any, to the Envision Franklin document? Envision Franklin is an important document for our city. The Franklin Municipal Planning Commission (FMPC) adopted the [Envision Franklin Plan](#) on January 26, 2017. Envision Franklin articulates the long-term vision that will direct future development in a way that strengthens the city and creates exceptional places for people. It is a planning document adopted and maintained by The Franklin Municipal Planning Commission. It is a document that should be reviewed and revised about every five-years, and we are currently in that process. Changes will occur based on citizen input, staff experience, changing trends, changes in state law, and new approaches. The most recent focus has been to retain as much of a rural character in newly annexed areas and land use that is less dependent on use of our cars. A strong point for Franklin is that we link land use to a transportation plan for roads, trails, and bike routes. The enforcement of the document is through our zoning ordinance which is approved by the BOMA.

2. For new development, how do you think the additional infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, police, ambulances, fire, etc.) should be funded? Our policy is that the developer pays for the infrastructure needs they are creating for water, sewer, roads, and facilities. I support this approach because otherwise it would be on the taxpayers.

3. Some citizens have expressed concern that the building in which City Hall resides is no longer adequate. What are your thoughts? It is an outdated structure that is not suitable for rehab or renovation. We are currently in the process of designing a new city hall to be located at the current site. Evaluation was performed at other sites which proved to be no less expensive.

4. What are your views concerning Franklin giving tax breaks to attract new businesses? Franklin has rarely participated in PILOTs. Our tax rate is so low that it is not really viewed as a benefit. The rare time we have offered them, it has always restricted it to 40% of the property tax rate so that the public safety portion (60%) is retained. The most recent was with In and Out Burger and had a cap on the amount and was tied to jobs production. We review it in light of the ROI.

Public Issues:

1. Should the City of Franklin have a code of decency for events held at publicly owned venues? How should the attendance by children be addressed at events which may contain adult content, including sexual content? We have such a code. The law restricts where children can attend. The General Assembly is addressing this currently and we will follow state law.

2. Is it the government's role to ensure the availability of affordable housing? If so, how? Government already participates with the housing authorities. We have supported them through varying financial support through the years.

3. What are your thoughts about the “Middle Eight” development project? It is currently under consideration by the BOMA and is coming up on a vote soon. It is a project that will bring new opportunity for creatives but is not affordable housing and likely will be more workforce based. The density has been reduced and will add vibrancy to that area and downtown. It has now passed the second reading with a 6 to 2 vote of approval.

4. What do you think about how Franklin handled the pandemic? What would you have done differently? Franklin followed the lead of the Governor’s COVID taskforce and gave the authority to the County Mayor. In retrospect, there are things we might change. The most important message from it is consistency in messaging and frequent communication.

5. As a citizen and a voter, do you think the county and the state have any election integrity issues? If so, what are the issues? I have faith in our election commission and our processes.

6. How should the City of Franklin make decisions regarding the placement of historical markers? Most are considered by the board and are vetted by various boards, commissions, and organizations.