

**Candidate's Name: Lisa Jarosinski**

#### COUNTY COUNCIL QUESTION

1. This Council will be tasked with appointing a Charter Review Committee, what charter changes do you support? What type of committee members will you be considering for appointment?

**ANSWER:** The committee to review the Charter should be composed of stakeholders. Government is supposed to be for the people, by the people. We need to include members and leaders of the community to get their perspectives. Any charter changes should be directed by the public. The committee should begin their deliberations by first scheduling an extensive listening tour to get input from the public. Also, I believe they should be prepared to add additional committee members, if indicated. Feedback gleaned directly from the public should be reviewed and discussed by the appointed committee.

2. We didn't get to this question at the forum: Based on your respective campaign commitments, what specific growth policies and regulations do you plan to introduce?

**ANSWER:** Presently growth is the county's most pressing issue. It is important that we address the issue without vilifying specific groups. First, we will need to tackle the fee issues. We have a large pipeline of homes and we need to address the school and infrastructure issues surrounding this approved growth. I would propose creating a task force that includes all the various stakeholders in order to find common ground. We need to be respectful of one another and understand that there will need to be collaboration and adjustments made by all parties. We must work together to keep the county moving forward.

3. Livable Frederick, now going on three years of preparations, has been both criticized and lauded for how it evolved. As a Council candidate, what is your perception of Livable Frederick, and what would you want to see in order to gain your support?

**ANSWER:** Livable Frederick is a fresh, different approach to comprehensive planning. I think we need to work with the draft and remember that this was an innovative approach in letting the plan arise from the public up, rather than having it pushed down from the county government. The planning commission is currently working on an implementation section to Livable Frederick. This should help provide some explanation and clarification to the Livable Frederick plan. It is important that we work through this process carefully. Having a plan and following through is important to our health as a county and it helps to support our bond rating.

4. What areas should the County Staff/Planning Commission begin with their first Community and Corridor Plans, following Livable Frederick?

**ANSWER:** The first Community and Corridor plans should be in District 2. The BOCC assigned and approved most of the current residential pipeline in District 2. Therefore, we will be the first to experience the serious issues that arise relating to transportation infrastructure. We need to think and plan those infrastructure changes carefully with an eye to the future. We will need to make accommodations for the types of communities being planned and the expected occupants of those

communities. Also, as our transportation technologies are changing we must prepare for those changes as we build our corridor plans.

5. What approaches would you take to garner support for legislation that you are introducing?

**ANSWER:** I am a collaborative person by nature and intention so I would work with others to get their input and support on the legislation. I would also have worked with the citizens to be sure this was legislation that was in their best interest and something they desired. It's about working together to solve our collective problems rather than spending all our energy working against one another. I believe that building a coalition of people who are willing to really work for the best possible answers for the county is the most effective way to create legislation that will succeed.

6. If elected and you knew you had full or enough support what one piece of legislation would you introduce day 1?

**ANSWER:** I want to listen to the citizens of district 2 and learn their priorities. It's not about what one person wants for the district – it's about “by the people for the people.”

7. The County Executive has the primary duty of preparing and presenting a balanced budget to the Council. The Council is restricted to reducing planned spending. Do you have priorities that you'd like to present to the County Executive for inclusion in future spending plans?

**ANSWER:** Our spending priorities will remain our schools, our infrastructure, and our public safety. We have made progress with teacher salaries but still have more to do and we must not forget about all the school support staff either. Our infrastructure needs to be addressed as we begin to tackle and manage all the growth that is in the pipeline. And, we need to continue to fund our public safety – fire and police. It's a balancing act. As a bookkeeper and personal tax preparer, I understand we have finite resources that must be consistently reviewed and adjusted.

8. What specific initiatives will you be pursuing to support our small businesses in Frederick County?

**ANSWER:** I want to meet with the small business community to discuss and learn their issues. I need to understand their issues before I can begin to look at specific initiatives. I would want to know what is working and what isn't working. Are their regulations that are hampering their ability to move forward? Has the new small business tax credit been helpful? I want to collaborate with the small business community to help them thrive in Frederick County.

9. When it comes to business-friendly policies and regulations, are there specific programs, services and regulatory changes that you would undertake?

**ANSWER:** As a new council member, I would need to meet with the local business leaders to assess what is working and what isn't. I would be a representative of the people – advocating for them while also being aware of the big picture and goals of the county.

10. In your discussion with the business community what have you found to be the greatest challenges facing the business community constituents?

**ANSWER:** I have not had the opportunity to meet with the business community as I am very new to this. I have met with some developers, however, and I do understand some of their concerns about fees and feeling maligned. However, I also understand the concerns of the residents in District 2 that have seen all this approved growth. There needs to be a balanced approach to development and the concerns of our residents so that businesses and quality of life will thrive. All parts of our economy are important. I am confident that the business community will be able to explain their concerns. I look forward to meeting with them and working on solutions that will be beneficial to everyone.

11. If elected, what would you do to improve/enhance the relationship between the County and the Frederick County General Assembly delegation?

**ANSWER:** There should be regular communication between the county and the Frederick County General Assembly delegation. This communication should be done in person on a regular schedule and can then be augmented and supplemented with phone calls and electronic forms of communication. We need to collaborate and build coalitions to move Frederick County forward toward our common goals.

12. Are there any specific solutions or ideas you have identified to support accelerating the needed widening of US 15 and I-270 projects.

**ANSWER:** There is no doubt that US 15 and I-270 need to be addressed. The resources to fund these projects need to come from the State and the Federal government. Frederick County needs to get the state to certify this corridor as a Priority Funding Area. This will allow the State to put this project at the top of the list in order to provide funding.

13. The first County Council has been seated for almost 4 years now, and has had to maneuver through establishing certain 'norms', 'processes' and 'rules of order' to administer their agenda. What is your observation of the first council and if elected what would you propose to further refine the legislative process in the County?

**ANSWER:** The County Council has done well putting processes in place and working with them. I would want to meet with the members of the first council to hear their input as to what has worked and what has been cumbersome. It might also be beneficial to solicit input from staff as well, as I am sure they have insight. Together we can work to make changes so the process flows smoothly.

The Yes or No Questions: Please take this opportunity to go beyond the simple answer of Yes or No.

One of the key initiatives the Chamber learned from the Greenville SC trip was a Citywide TIF, that was purposeful, and led to strategic investment of longer term infrastructure needs for all types of development.

1. Do you support Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) mechanisms to support infrastructure necessary to bring forth...*Residential Opportunities...* (YES/NO)... in Frederick?

**ANSWER: No. Taxes are a difficult subject and our housing pipeline has not been well planned. Therefore, I believe it would be unfair at this time to consider a TIF.**

2. Do you support Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) mechanisms to support infrastructure necessary to bring forth...*Employment Opportunities (Yes/NO).....*in Frederick?

**ANSWER: Yes. Supporting employment opportunities is important. However, I would proceed with caution as taxation must be fair to stakeholders.**

3. Do you support Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) mechanisms to support infrastructure necessary to bring forth... *Mixed Use Opportunities (YES/NO)...*in Frederick?

**ANSWER: It would depend on the Mixed Use proposed. Again, taxes are a tough subject and I would want to be sure that the tax was needed and implemented fairly to stakeholders.**

Related to financing of Infrastructure, but not utilizing a TIF as described for prior questions:

4. Do you support broad-based taxes and fees to pay for school infrastructure needed as a result of enrollment changes?

**ANSWER: It would depend on what taxes and fees were proposed. We do need to keep up-to-date with school infrastructure. I would be willing to entertain various options.**

5. Do you support broad-based taxes/fees to support constructing specific transportation projects?

**ANSWER: It would depend on what taxes and fees were proposed. Transportation projects are important and need to be funded. I would be willing to entertain various financing options.**

Relative to County Operations/Separation of Powers

6. Do you support a completely separate staff for the County Council in order for the Council to have independent-or-autonomous review and analysis of legislative initiatives that come before them?

**ANSWER: Yes. I would support a separate staff for the County Council provided we have funding.**

Over the last four years the County Executive has introduced as much legislation as the Council. Further if you look at the Council bills, many are as a result of an administrative policy or issues that required the Council to take up as a result of administrative actions.

7. Do you think the Executive Branch is attempting to address too many legislative initiatives as opposed to running the administrative arm of the County, or is this the right approach?

**ANSWER: No, I do not think the Executive Branch is attempting to address too many issues. The role of County government is to work together for the success of the County. We should focus on working together to address the county's issues and not be worried about who proposed a productive idea.**

The Frederick County Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) has been in existence for nearly 30 years. During that time, there have been specific adjustments to how it is administered with the most recent significant changes occurring in 2008. Now, in 2018 with a rapidly changing economy, demonstrated shifts in county demographics, and housing choice preference from both existing/resale and new home buyers, combined with programmatic decisions affecting capacity in different ways throughout the County.

8. Do you support a comprehensive review and analysis for best practices and enactment of a better approach that will lead Frederick County's Growth Management into the next decade?

**ANSWER: Yes, I would welcome a comprehensive review and analysis. We should not be afraid to look at what other jurisdictions are doing that might prove fruitful for us.**

The council addressed a number of bills brought forth to them affecting business development and land use;

9. Do you support a more targeted approach to updating certain code/zoning changes, rather than dealing with issues on a piecemeal basis?

**ANSWER: Yes, I think a comprehensive review would be helpful.**