

Samuel C. Powell	Kourtney J. Royster	Questions	Kelly Allen	Ramona Allen	Steve Carter	Sean C. Ewing
11. The County needs to ensure a strong work force is available and provide the infrastructure needed to support business needs without a bunch of red tape.	11. No response.	11. What should the county be doing to foster a strong business climate? [25 word limit]	11. Balance keeping our tax rate low while providing necessary services and quality education.	11. Making sure we have a strong education system by promoting programs that help those in high school gain certifications while still in high school. Making sure we maintain good infrastructures.	11. We must push for continued and more significant improvement in public education and improve our UDO to support growth with controls that protect our citizens.	11. We foster growth by investing in industrial infrastructure, streamlining permitting, and partnering with ACC for workforce training, ensuring Alamance remains a high-value, low-cost destination.
12. Support.	12. Support.	12. Do you support or oppose countywide zoning? [25 word limit]	12. Oppose.	12. Support.	12. Oppose.	12. Support.
12a. Property owners outside urban areas also need protection from undesirable development that can only be provided by zoning as the system is currently set up by the state.	12a. No response.	12a. Why or why not? [25 word limit]	12a. I am a strong advocate for private property rights. I do believe we need to strengthen our subdivision ordinances.	12a. By not having zones, we open ourselves up to outside contractors or business coming in and doing or bring whatever with little or no opposition.	12a. I constantly get feedback from rural citizens who don't want to lose control over their land to the government.	12a. It is time for change. The only thing worse than zoning is no zoning. Alamance County has reached a point where we need smart growth.
13. Yes.	13. No.	13. The county commissioners have adopted a moratorium of one year on allowing any data centers in the non-incorporated areas of the county. In general, do you believe such a moratorium is sufficient to allow time to re-examine the county's ordinances that would apply in the event a company wants to build a data center here?	13. Yes.	13. No.	13. Yes.	13. No.
13a. N.A.	13a. No response.	13a. If no, do you believe the moratorium should be lengthened? And if so, for how long?	13a. No. The commissioners and the county attorney are researching Data Centers and should have enough time to make a decision on the needed ordinances to control Data Centers.	13a. Yes. 2 years.	13a. N.A.	13a. Yes. Overall 2 years.
14. No.	14. Yes.	14. Should data centers be banned altogether in the non-incorporated areas of the county?	14. Yes. It is my opinion they need to be where water and sewer are available, not well water.	14. Yes.	14. No.	14. No response.
15. Oppose.	15. Support.	15. There has been discussion from some residents who have suggested that the Confederate monument on the north side of the Historic Court House should be moved. Would you support or oppose moving the monument? If so, where? [25 word limit]	15. Oppose. The county does not own the Confederate monument. We need to know history, the good and the bad, or it could be repeated.	15. No comment.	15. Oppose. Not only do state statues prohibit it, except under specific circumstances, it also represents a monument dedicated to the 281 men who died representing Alamance County.	15. North Carolina law restricts relocation. In a 2024 case about the specific monument, the Court held that Alamance County lacked authority to move it.
16. None.	16. a., b., & c.	16. Which, if any, of the following federal holidays should be added as an additional holiday(s) for county employees? a. George Washington's Birthday/Presidents' Day b. Juneteenth c. Columbus Day	16. None.	16. b. Juneteenth.	16. None.	16. Juneteenth.
16b. N.A.	16b. They are federal holidays and we should observe them as such.	16b. If yes to any, why? [25 word limit]	16b. N.A.	16b. —	16 b. N.A.	16b. I support adding Juneteenth to align with state and federal standards. To remain fiscally responsible, I would propose offset efficiencies to ensure a revenue-neutral implementation.
17. No.	17. Yes.	17. Some North Carolina counties have adopted ordinances that seek to ban discrimination within their jurisdictions based on sexual orientation (i.e., lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people) in public accommodations and employment. Does Alamance County need such an ordinance?	17. No. Federal Law already bans discrimination. The county has a written policy on discrimination and harassment, as well as non-retaliation for filing claims.	17. No.	17. No.	17. Yes.
17a. Against.	17a. No response.	17a. Would you vote for or against such an ordinance?	17a. Against.	17a. Against.	17a. Against.	17a. For.
18. Reducing its cost.	18. No response.	18. There has been some recent discussion among commissioners that the county should reconsider the size and cost of a proposed expansion of the Judge J.B. Allen, Jr. Court House, previously approved at \$37 million. Do you favor moving ahead or reducing its cost?	18. Reducing its cost.	18. No response.	18. Moving ahead.	18. Reducing its cost.
19. Have authority to override.	19. Should abide by municipal recommendations.	19. There has been recent debate over whether county commissioners are entitled to override the suggested appointments of individuals to serve on the county's advisory committee for the county library system. Do you believe the commissioners have the right to override municipal suggestions (from city councils in Burlington, Graham, and Mebane), or should they abide by the municipalities' recommendations?	19. Have authority to override. Also, commissioners were given authority to approve and appoint members of the board.	19. Should abide by municipal recommendations.	19. Have authority to override.	19. [Both listed.] The bylaws give commissioners final approval but require municipal recommendations for six seats. I'll honor those recommendations unless egregious concerns are documented and publicly explained.
20. About right. We become a training ground for other counties if we do not provide enough funding to keep our officers.	20. No response.	Law Enforcement 20. In general, do you believe that the county is providing too much, too little, or about the right amount of funding for the Alamance County sheriff's office? [25 word limit]	20. About right. Neighboring communities and counties continue to raise salaries, which makes it difficult for the county to retain and attract law enforcement officers here.	20. Too much. When we spend money on things that we still have not seen used (tank), increased salaries, buildings built, we are poorly allocating our taxpayer dollars.	20. About right. A primary responsibility is the health and safety of our citizenry. Plus we are required to finance and maintain sheriff's office, provide necessary office space and jail.	20. No response.
20a. No.	20a. No response.	20a. If too little, would you be willing to raise property taxes to provide increased funding?	20a. No.	20a. No.	20a. N.A.	20a. No response.
21. We still need more officers, but we have already done enough to create a competitive wage in the Alamance Sheriff's Dept./jail.	21. No response.	21. Over the past several years, the sheriff has reported a rather persistent shortage of jailers in the Alamance County Detention Center. What can the county do to improve recruitment and retention of jail employees? [25 word limit]	21. We need to continue the hiring bonus for the Sheriff's Office. We approved using drug forfeiture funds to pay the hiring bonuses.	21. Morale must be addressed. Officers must be able to speak or give suggestions without fear of retaliation and work in a hostile free environment.	21. The big issue is our neighbors are not opposed to increasing taxes, so when we go up on compensation, they do too.	21. I support competitive frontline pay and performance-based signing bonuses to fill vacancies, ensuring detention safety while demanding strict administrative efficiency to offset recent salary increases.
22. Support.	22. No response.	22. There has been periodic discussion about whether the former Prison Unit (sometimes referred to as the "prison farm") in Graham should be renovated by the county in order to provide room for auxiliary jail space. Would you support or oppose such a renovation?	22. Support.	22. Oppose.	22. Support.	22. Support.
22a. Yes.	22a. No.	22a. In particular, providing additional jail space might free up some beds in the main jail that could allow for restoring the ICE contract that the sheriff cancelled in 2026 in order to ensure adequate space for local prisoners. Would you like to see a restoration of the ICE contract under those circumstances?	22a. Yes. It would depend on the contract offered by the Federal Government.	22a. No.	22a. Yes.	22a. No.
23. Support.	23. Oppose.	23. In general, aside from the jail contract, do you support or oppose the concept of having the Alamance County sheriff's office cooperate with ICE?	23. Support.	23. Oppose.	23. Support.	23. Oppose.
23a. The ICE housing contract is very lucrative for Alamance County and the income potential is far greater than the cost and it helps reduce the number of illegal aliens in the system.	23a. No response.	23a. Why or why not? [50 word limit]	23a. The North Carolina General Assembly passed a bill that states N.C. Law Enforcement will cooperate with Federal Officers.	23a. The way we are seeing the invasion of families of the Hispanic race without sometimes merit. We must make sure we have the right personnel that are not targeting our Latino community.	23a. I'm sure everyone realizes we take an oath to uphold the constitution of both the US and NC. We need to ensure that law enforcement can do its job.	23a. State law governs mandatory jail procedures. I oppose optional ICE partnerships that divert local resources and make immigrant neighbors less willing to report crimes or seek help.

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24. Yes.	24. No.	24. Some cities and counties across the state have adopted policies to use Flock cameras in their jurisdictions, primarily as license plate readers. Locally, Burlington and Graham use such cameras for that purpose. Do you think Flock cameras would be a useful in Alamance County's non-incorporated areas (i.e., those in the sheriff's jurisdiction, not within any municipality)? 24a. Why or why not? [25 word limit]	24. Yes.	24. No.	24. Not sure.	24. No.
24a. Since I am not involved in drug smuggling and human trafficking, I have no problem with allowing the Sheriff to have increased surveillance capability.	24a. No response.	Education	24a.If the cameras are used only for the purpose that they were intended to be used for, and the officers have to state why they are using the data.	24a. No. Again until we can address those who are in authority to make sure these are not used as another way of intimidation.	24a. I have recently been following that issue and some of the privacy issues that are coming up. I would like to learn more about it and what, if anything the sheriff thinks we might need to do. 25. About right.	24a. Routine license-plate tracking and broad data sharing risk residents' Constitutional privacy. Investigate specific crimes using narrowly targeted tools and accountable oversight. 25. Too little.
25. About right.	25. Too little.	25. Does the county budget provide too much, not enough, or about the right level of funding for the Alamance-Burlington School System? 25a. If too little, would you be willing to raise property taxes to provide increased funding?	25. About right.	25. Too little.		
25a. N.A.	25a. No response.	26. In your view, who is responsible for what some critics describe as the poor condition of the county school system's physical facilities?	25a. N.A.	25a. Yes.	25a. N.A.	25a. No response.
26. School administration.	26. County commissioners.		26.School administration.	26. Everyone must take responsibility for what they have been elected to do.	26. The two boards have different responsibilities, the commissioners provide funding and the school board is responsible for getting the work done. They both must work together.	26. No response.
27. Student performance reflects parental interest and commitment. To further involve parents, I would hold back students who are not performing at grade level and require parents to pay the cost of supplemental training for students not yet prepared or ready to enter the system.	27. No response.	27. What specific initiatives or policies would you propose or support to improve the quality of public education in Alamance County? [50 word limit]	27. I think under Dr. Fleming's guidance we are seeing an improvement in the school's scores. The problems he inherited will take a while to correct.	27. To meet quarterly to discuss any findings and a plan of action to correct the findings. Regular maintenance or preventative maintenance, prompt response to findings.	27. My primary concern is a need for more respect, for teachers and administration by students and the community. That also extends to a need for the students to demonstrate respect for each other. But even more, our young people need to gain a desire to improve their lives by learning.	27. It is time for change, on day 1 I will foster a partnership with the School Board, moving from friction to shared accountability. I propose a dashboard to align fiscal efficiency with academic outcomes. By prioritizing CTE/apprenticeships and a proactive maintenance plan, we protect taxpayer assets and ensure student success. 28. No response.
28. Yes.	28. Yes.	28. Alamance County voters approved a \$150 million bond package for ABSS in November 2018 to be used for renovations and construction to increase capacity at the high school level. Do you anticipate the need for another bond referendum for repairs and/or expansions at other grade levels during the next four years? 28a. If yes, please identify where you see the greatest facility needs and why. [50 word limit]	28. No.	28. Yes.	28. No. We're still paying for the last one.	
28a. Greatest facility needs? All existing schools need continued investments in roofs, A/C systems, safety systems and paving among other needs that are funded through bonds. As the number of students increases, we will also need new schools in areas of the county not adequately served.	28a. No response.		28a. We are still paying for the last bond. I realize that with all the increase in population in the county we will need to provide more schools.	28a. As we grow as a county we must make sure we stay updated and current with necessary tools to keep our children engaged and current on the changing systems.	28a. The two boards must determine a level of funding our county can afford. When you look at the stated need, it's primarily in the elementary and middle school area. When I looked into it there is an issue with DPI not supporting the use of mobile classroom space.	28a. I prioritize optimizing current capacity and proactive maintenance to delay new debt. Any bond must be data-driven, transparently managed, and paired with an absolute commitment to protecting the county's credit rating and reserves.
29. Support.	29. No response.	29. In general do you support or oppose the concept of allowing additional charter schools to be developed and started in Alamance County? [25 word limit]	29. Support. I think parents should have the option of choosing where their children attend school.	29. Oppose. If we do what we need to (that is "invest" in our public schools) I feel we will see schools growth and acceleration in education.	29. Support. The growth in Charter, Parochial and Private Schools has caused the ABSS enrollment to remain essentially flat.	29. No response.
30. The county commissioners have not dealt with county-wide zoning.	30. No response.	General Comments 30. What is your greatest area of disagreement with action(s) taken by the county commissioners in the past 2-5 years? [25 word limit]	30. The cost of the Courthouse expansion.	30. Continue to defund school system and then agreeing after more cost of lawyers and time. Still not voting on zoning our county and defunding libraries.	30. I've been on the side of most decisions made.	30. Alamance-Burlington School System funding was and remains the area of greatest disagreement. So much, that the School System has sued the County Commissioners twice.
31. First – we have to re-build the unassigned fund balance which is now severely depleted. Two – we need to address county-wide zoning. and Three – commissioners need to work with the school board to help improve student performance.	31. No response.	31. In your view, what are the three main issues facing the county during the next 5 years? [50 word limit]	31. (1) Providing emergency services to handle the county's growth. (2) Replacing the funds that have been reduced by the Federal Government. (3) Expanding the courthouse.	31. 1. Our taxes and how they are spent. 2. Our schools and teachers and how they are funding them. 3. Not establishing budgets and staying within that budget.	31. Proposed changes in the state laws have the potential to hamstring county government in delivering the services we presently offer. Last year's budget was extremely tight and I'm afraid that the '27/'28 budget may be even more difficult. Then there is getting our growth better managed and improving the performance of public education.	31. Fiscal Resilience: Eliminating the \$12.9 million structural gap through efficiency, not just tax hikes. Infrastructure-First Growth: Ensuring roads and utilities precede development to protect rural character. Educational Accountability: Balancing school funding with performance metrics to ensure our workforce remains competitive without overburdening property owners.