

Gainesville Tea Party Local Candidate Questionnaire

City of Gainesville Elections, 2012

1. The Constitution

a. If elected, you will take an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution. Tell us about this oath and what it means to you. *Yes, the US Constitution is the law of the land.*

b. What is your view on the sanctity of private property as it pertains to eminent domain? *I do not like eminent domain. I am for private property rights. Just compensation for takings.*

c. Do you feel our government has curtailed liberties set forth in the Constitution? *Yes,* Specifically, how do you view the 10th Amendment to the Constitution as it relates to local government? Explain your answer in detail. *Those powers not delegated to the US or prohibited to the states are reserved to the people.*

d. What can you do at the local level to stop, reverse, or prevent erosion of constitutionally-protected liberties? *Uphold the US Constitution*

Government in the Sunshine

*LOCAL → you has
em tyrannical
- it relates
to gov in
the sunshine.
re: Biomass plant
limiting citizens comments*

2. Energy and Environment

a. Do you support the biomass plant? Explain your answer. *NO, there was no gov in the sun with redacted contract, no need, utility rates will go up.*

b. Do you support GRU being owned by the City of Gainesville, and if so, why is this arrangement better for the citizens of Gainesville and the GRU service area than a privately owned utility? *NO, the commission can raise the rates and are not regulated by the public service commission*

c. Why is it better for GRU to build the new power plant than to purchase power from already existing reliable and cost effective power providers? *It is not.*

d. Do you accept the stated claims that salvaging biomass locally to fuel the new power plant will not harm our fragile environment? Explain your answer in detail. *We do not have a need. We should buy surplus from other utilities.*

e. Large trucks will add significant usage to Alachua County's already under-maintained roads. Would you support a usage tax to be paid by GRU to Alachua County to compensate for the additional maintenance that will be required? If not, provide a *NO, natural gas is better alternative. sources of biomass have not been identified*

we should purchase surplus from other utilities

Yes, a user fee would be appropriate.

But, I would rather see the biomass project canceled.

Gainesville Tea Party Local Candidate Questionnaire

City of Gainesville Elections, 2012

rationale that justifies your position.

3. Limiting/Expanding the Role of Government

a. When you get to city commission, what specific programs/agencies would you abolish?

EO office, Mosquito Control, Flowline in Water One Stop Center

b. What is the proper role of local government?

TAX + regulate

c. Do you support International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)/Local Governments for Sustainability/Agenda 21? Explain.

NO, I do not support foreign government
- Only the US Constitution

4. Economic Philosophy and Economic Development

a. What do you view as strengths and weaknesses of the free market?

Free Mkt is the best system in the world

b. What would you do to make the city more fiscally responsible? Explain.

cut spending - focus on essential services only.

c. Do you feel our present city and county standards are favorable to business development? If not, then explain what changes you would make to promote business development.

MAKE development review process easier

5. Transportation

a. Should we allocate more funds to repairing existing roads and building new ones?

More Funds for repairing - new development should

b. Do you support more spending on RTS?

NO - more on making the city "walk friendly" for new ones.

c. Should we privatize the bus system?

Yes - RTS has heavily subsidized bus taxpayer

Gainesville Tea Party Local Candidate Questionnaire

City of Gainesville Elections, 2012

- d. Do you favor the narrowing of city thoroughfares? Include in your answer the present plans to for the 16th Avenue project.

The "road diet" works in certain conditions where parking & pedestrian safety are concerned. The 16th Ave project is ~~unnecessary~~ unnecessary. It is fine like it is.

Please answer the below with YES/NO responses.

- a. Do you think local taxes are too high? Yes No
- b. Do you favor the use of eminent domain for non-public-related needs (per amendment 5 of the Constitution)? Yes No
- c. Are municipal unions too powerful? Yes No
- d. Should union membership be voluntary? Yes No
- e. Do you support the gender identity ordinance? Yes No
- f. Would you support privatizing GRU? Yes No
- g. Do you feel our local taxpayers do enough for homeless people? Yes No
- h. Do you support the one-stop homeless shelter? Yes No
- i. Do you support spending public funds on Ironwood golf course? Yes No
- j. Do you support Alachua County Forever? Yes No

Gainesville Tea Party Local Candidate Questionnaire

City of Gainesville Elections, 2012

k. Do you feel local law enforcement agencies are overreaching? Yes No

I, Richard Selwan, have completed this form voluntarily and the above responses honestly represent my positions and principles.

Signature 

Print Name Richard Selwan

Date 11/29/11