



## **2026 Atlantic Beach Candidate Written Questions**

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### **1. Why are you running for Mayor of Atlantic Beach?**

I am running because Atlantic Beach is at a pivotal moment. Our community is changing quickly, and we need to protect the qualities that make Atlantic Beach special while preparing responsibly for the future.

I want to protect our tree canopy and natural beauty, preserve our community character and reasonable density, strengthen flood resilience and public safety, protect our public elementary school, and ensure that development is thoughtful and consistent with the values of our residents.

After knocking on doors and talking with residents throughout Atlantic Beach, I have heard a consistent message: people value our small-town character and do not want unchecked density, clear-cutting of trees, or smaller lots that fundamentally change our neighborhoods.

I am also running because I believe our city government needs greater transparency, responsiveness, and collaboration. I want to bring a fresh approach to City Hall—one based on facts, expert advice, fiscal responsibility, and, most importantly, listening to the citizens we serve.

### **2. What are your qualifications?**

My qualifications come from a lifetime of education, professional leadership, and service.

I earned my undergraduate and medical degrees in Michigan and completed my residency in Anesthesia and Critical Care Medicine at Johns Hopkins. I practiced medicine for 28 years and held leadership positions throughout my career.

As a physician and part-owner of surgery centers, I was responsible for managing staff, operations, accreditation, finances, and patient safety. Medicine taught me how to listen carefully, evaluate data, consult experts, make difficult decisions, and remain accountable when the stakes are high.

I have also lived a life of volunteer service because I care about people and my community. I was the president of our public high school's PTA, and immediately after moving to AB, helped establish a non-profit here in AB, Connecting Thru Music, LLC that brought Music Therapy to children with special needs. I continue to volunteer every week at Volunteers in Medicine and have a real sense how difficult it is for many people right now.

I also understand the importance of working collaboratively. As a physician, business owner, wife, and mother, I have spent my career balancing competing priorities while keeping people and outcomes at the center of my decisions.

I have attended a large number of city commission meetings over the past four years, so I have a good understanding of how the commission works. I also have been able to garner public support for several issues that were not in the best interest of AB, such as selling our water to a developer.

That is the leadership I would bring to Atlantic Beach: **data-driven, fiscally responsible, transparent, collaborative, and focused on people.**

### **3. What are your priorities?**

My priorities are captured in my campaign slogan, AB Strong.

**First, protect our natural environment and community character.** That means protecting our mature tree canopy, preserving green space and our beaches and marshes, and resisting unnecessary overdevelopment and lot splitting that increase density, runoff, and tree loss.

**Second, strengthen resilience.** We need responsible stormwater management, strong natural and man-made infrastructure that can withstand flooding and severe storms, and a city that actively participates in regional and federal resilience planning.

**Third, protect public safety.** Police, fire, and emergency medical services must have the resources and support they need to keep our residents safe and remain fully staffed and prepared at all times for a natural disaster.

**Fourth, protect our public elementary school.** Our school is a cornerstone of our community and contributes to the character and property values of Atlantic Beach. Thanks to the recent efforts, ABE has been moved into the "Monitor" category, the safest of the 3 categories. While there does not appear to be any immediate threat, nothing has changed materially since the

attempted closing in 2024. We should pursue all options to safeguard our school, such as getting historic building status to secure more funding for repairs and increase its protection.

**Fifth, practice fiscal responsibility.** We need to be careful with taxpayer dollars, maintain our infrastructure, and pursue opportunities to reduce unnecessary costs—including obtaining a fairer agreement with Jacksonville for the services Atlantic Beach receives, formalized in the Interlocal Agreement.

**And finally, restore transparency and citizen engagement in City Hall.** Residents deserve timely notice, access to information, meaningful opportunities to participate, and a government that listens to citizens and respects the expertise of its staff and consultants.

My priorities are straightforward: a strong environment, strong public safety, strong fiscal stewardship, strong leadership, a strong public school, and a strong sense of community.

That's AB Strong!