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**Candidate Questionnaire
2017 Primary Election--Town Council Positions**

Town: Peachland

Position: Candidate for Town Council Member

Candidate Name: Gail Deese Horne

Biographical Information

Education:

Graduate of Bowman Senior High School, 1975

Graduate of South Piedmont Community College, Diploma Program, Licensed Practical Nursing, 1979

Graduate of Cabarrus College of Health Sciences, Associate Degree Nursing, 1999

Honor Graduate of Winston Salem State University, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing, 2009

Past & Present Employment/Business Experience:

Anson County Hospital

Drs. McKinnon and Smethie, Surgeons

Duke and St. Joseph Home Care and Hospice

Marshville Community Medical

Union Regional Home Health

Anson County Health Department

Union County Division of Public Health

Past & Present Community Involvement:

Winston Salem State University Alumnus

Cabarrus College of Health Sciences Alumnus

South Piedmont Community College – Past Advisory Board Member

State Employee's Credit Union – Past Advisory Board Member

Hospice Volunteer

Lanes Creek Baptist Church – Children's Church Teacher

Candidate Questions

What is your favorite movie? Why?

I have more than one favorite movie, some include Iron Jawed Angels, Passion of the Christ and Braveheart. These movies inspire one to stand up for their beliefs for the common good of all people, regardless of the consequences. I also enjoy movies based on bestselling books, such as The Notebook and A Walk to Remember. Some favorite comedies include, I Love Lucy, Last Man Standing and The Golden Girls.

Why are you running for office? I have lived in Peachland my entire life and love this small, close-knit community. I am proud of my town and the accomplishments made over the years, but I am concerned about future economic challenges. I would like to contribute in a positive way to its growth, development and financial stability, while maintaining the “small town” atmosphere.

What have you done to prepare for election to town council and how will you conduct yourself if elected? I have discussed with some of the present Board Members and concerned citizens, a few of the current issues at hand. I feel I have a firm grasp of what is expected of me as a Board member and I am prepared to work toward meeting the goals set forth by the Board. I plan to reach out to the citizens and listen to their concerns and suggestions, advocate for needed change and transparently keep the community apprised of updated changes and plans.

As a council member, what are three actions you would support to strengthen small business and entrepreneurship in your town? 1. Connect with the industry community and stakeholders in our area to investigate opportunities and ideas for business development. Prepare for new regulations and zoning to accommodate new recruitment.

2. Consider allocations to new businesses as an incentive to recruitment. This contributes to business sustainability, boosts productivity and increases employment within our community.

3. Develop a recruitment team to seek out small businesses and independent operators suited to the specifics of our area. This may be done actively or through any media technology available.

What do you believe is the greatest economic challenge facing your town and what would be your approach to address it? A shrinking tax base related to the decreased number of profitable businesses within our town. Fortunately, with new road construction under way, it may be a golden opportunity for slow, progressive growth. Formulating strategies to encourage new business opportunities provides the option for homeowner relocation, building and increased land sales, all of which would increase town revenue.



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Do you believe town government should weigh in on labor and industry issues (e.g. minimum wage, workforce development etc.)? Although I am not very familiar with these issues, I do feel we should have a voice in these matters when it is directly related to town dynamics.

Would you support an effort to create a strategic plan that would bring government, business and the public together to create a shared vision and collectively develop a roadmap to pursue and capture growth as a community? Why or why not.

If elected, how do you see yourself, town council and town staff working with the Anson County Chamber of Commerce and its member businesses to advance community and business development in Anson County? I see a collaboration of various resources, each with certain capabilities, working together, utilizing research and innovative techniques to foster unity and continual communication to promote a positive business community. **“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.” (James Cash Penney)**

Optional: Please attach a photo with your submission

Please return all responses by Friday, September 29th, 2017

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