



Good Evening Lincolnville,

I am running as a write in candidate to make the town better. I have been asked several times to run for council even by our sitting mayor. The Honorable Dickerson has done some good things, but I know we can do more. I'm not going to beat up on the former mayors or current mayor.

I know that I am a forward thinker, people person, bridge builder, and problem solver. I have helped many political candidates across this state and been a community organizer for 20 years and counting. My activism being in Sumter, SC where I had lived for 20 plus years and graduated from Morris College.

I am willing to be a turtle for this community by not being afraid to stick my neck out for the community. Here is how I am going to do it. It is called "The VISA Plan."

1. Vision - see what the town was, is, and what it can be

We can have a thriving, quiet, and rural small town with an urban taste. We must have both the balance of business and residential community. We need a gas station, shopping centers, business outlets, and cultural enrichment centers to have the feel of both urban and rural atmosphere. We need walking trails, sidewalks, stop signs, speed humps, recreational centers, etc.

2. Integrity - we need a town council that will function with a spirit and mind to work as a team and with our community. It takes integrity to have humility to humble ourselves to communicate with all who agree and disagree with our views and perspectives. I'm willing to

meet with anybody and everybody for the betterment of the town. We need honesty, truth, and sincerity.

3. Stability - Mayor Dickerson asked me to be a part of the planning commission and I gladly accepted. I was glad that I could have a stable, sound, and strong mind with the will of the people in my heart and mind. There was a time I wanted to quit, but it was not about me...it was about the town and the people in this town. 1) we fought to get the Comprehensive Plan started for the town, which was past due since 2015. Every 10 yrs, all towns, cities, and counties must have a 10 yr comprehensive plan in place. The last mayor didn't start the process and this mayor engaged the process with the pushing and pulling of the Planning Commission. Without updated Comprehensive Plan, which is the vision for improvement of ideas for your town from roads repair, updating infrastructure for new water valved, recreational centers, reorganizing the town business departments, lurching business to town to create a revenue base other than residential subdivision, which is a one time business transaction. Then, we still have to update the ordinance so it wants to be easy for developers to develop here. The comprehensive plan gives us the road map to create new ordinances. The residents of Lincolnville do not know like I know there has been and still is some under table deals going on that do not reflect the interest of the town. I am asking you to help me and us change that.

4. Accountability - this town is suffering from accountability and transparency. We just saw how the power of our voices will change things. October 23 at 7pm. The mayor and the town council met to vote on the mayor and council's salary increase. The Mayor used his better angels to table the decision and not increase his salary from 27,000 to 54,000 plus, which he had already increased his salary before this decision to now not push through his salary increase. He and council decided not to be on the bad side of history. I know some of the council members were not in agreement from the start.

Accountability is essential to improving the quality of the town from the town to our homes. We need to not get a grant to restore the town hall, put up flower pots, a new sign, place our needs on street signs without going through proper protocols, need help our fire department, and not window dress some immediate issues. It takes a real and sincere plan that's clear,

communicated, and common sense to help make this town better. Transparency and accountability is needed.

Here are my goals if elected.

1) improve the water system immediately (February 2024 Mayor had requested a plumbing company give him a quote on repairing all valves in the town. This quote was never given to council nor the town knew about this quote-in order to give quote the valves have to identify. Mayor knows what needs to be done. He has the quotes-if he does not, I am happy to reveal it). It is nonsense about not knowing what could be done. The problem can be fixed. I know it can, because I have recommended the company to help the town.

2) Address many issues with the fire department and build a new fire station.

3) Restore a police substation

4) have a function department by building capacity for directors of water, recreation, zoning, sanitary, technology/public communication, safety, and other departments that are needed so elected officials are not overstepping in day to day operations, but providing oversight, which is their elected duties.

5) communicate to all residents by emails, voice messages, written notice, website, social media, and call meetings to keep the community informed and involved.

All those can be addressed by innovative and creative planning with a mix of old and new approaches such as grants, seeking funds for state/federal, penny sale taxes, bonds, etc.

Write in Dr. Travis Holmes November 4, I will with God's help deliver the VISA Plan to make Lincolnville better to bring out the best in us.

Travis S. Holmes

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