



# **Elect** **Republican** **Bill** **JOHNS** for FARRAGUT MAYOR

**Town of Farragut elections are non-partisan / Election Day is Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> / Early Voting is July 15<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**

Since I am not active on social media or any other platform, I would like to address a few things that have recently been brought to my attention in addition to sharing some transparency of the current election. In 1998, I learned a term from working in Silicon Valley called “FUD” (fear, uncertainty, and doubt). FUD was often deployed by competitors in a sales cycle to sabotage your company’s momentum when they thought they were not going to be selected. Let me address some FUD below and provide some transparency.

Thank you for your flexibility and support, please vote, and let’s make Farragut friendly again! – Bill Johns

**1). I AM Against All Taxes including a Property Tax!**

There is a group putting FUD on social media that I am for a property tax which is laughable. Since the early 1990s, I have been documented being against all taxes. When a great US Representative and family friend became Tennessee Governor, he later went crazy in attempting to pass a state income tax. I not only disavowed him but traveled to Nashville to oppose and protest against his efforts. My efforts along with “Axe the Tax” and the Tennessee Conservative Union were recognized statewide.

Since 2004 and as covered in the media, I have been on the record and active in Farragut to be against all taxes (especially a property tax). One of the many reasons why I am endorsed by the founders of the Concord-Farragut Republican Club, the Chairman of the Knox County GOP, and the Chairman of the Tennessee Conservative Union / President of the West Knox GOP is my proven anti-tax record. My opponent has no such record, has championed the passing of a tax in 2020, and has supported one of the largest spending sprees since the Town of Farragut’s inception.

Daniel Herrera (Chairman, Knox County GOP), Bill Johns, and Gary Loe, (Chairman, Tennessee Conservative Union).



**2). I Support Law Enforcement, Military, and Scouting Organizations!**

There is a FUD video produced by unknown communist supporters of my opponent against me (and probably produced without my opponent’s knowledge). It depicts in part that law enforcement, military, and scouting organizations are “domestic terrorists”. This is totally unacceptable!

This saddens me due to my 30-year documented record working with and supporting local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, providing advisement to military organizations, and mentoring scouting organizations including sponsoring many Eagle Scout projects. Both my wife and I pursued criminal justice studies as undergraduates and were mentored by exceptional federal agents, have assisted various law enforcement investigations, and have a positive relationship with all these communities. Please join me in supporting our law enforcement, military, and scouting organizations and disavow these anti-American actions.

Leilani Johns on an Awesome Motorcycle (Thank You KCSO!)



**3). I Support Military Veterans!**

I grew up in a military household and even recently wrote about my “military brat” life a few months ago in this very paper. I have also supported our military and its veterans in many publications such as the Air Force Association Magazine, Marine Corps Times, etc. and various National Defense Industry Association groups along with not-for-profit activities. I mention this as I have recently been approached by a “Farragut veterans group” to support them in their non-partisan activities. Unfortunately, this is not the case as it seems. Some of my own veteran friends have shown me from their social media accounts that some of these members of this new Farragut veteran group are acting in bad faith. As a result, I am no longer in contact with this group nor am I supporting them. Groups I would recommend supporting include the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Smoky Mountain Service Dogs, or purchasing the book The Longest Rescue about Captain Bill Robinson, USAF (retired) about him being the longest captive enlisted prisoner of war in US History (who currently resides near Farragut).

Bill and Leilani Johns with Captain Bill Robinson (USAF, ret.) in 2016.



**4). Who Knew? Vice Mayor Louise Povlin Is Active in This Election!**

Any citizen can look at the signing petitions and financial disclosures of Knox County political candidates at the Knox County Election Commission’s website. For this election, we recently filled our financial disclosures for July 11th. The Knox County administrator of elections was contacted this past Friday as my opponent’s disclosure was not viewable. By later that pm, it was posted with some interesting entries that are not transparent to the average citizen. According to the administrator of elections, the error was made on their part per not posting.

Although Vice Mayor Povlin clearly and legally made a \$500 donation to my opponent, what is interesting is there are many campaign expenditures to two limited liability companies (Para Bellum Enterprises and FitnessTN). When you search for them on the Tennessee Secretary of State’s website, the information shows these entities are directly linked to Vice Mayor Povlin. The address for donating to my opponent turns out to be an office directly associated with Vice Mayor Povlin’s business. Furthermore a \$4000 dollar loan was made to my opponent’s campaign from the same address and was not listed, as customary in reporting, as a personal loan using a candidate’s contact name and home address. More than likely it was misidentified with the intention of being a personal loan as a “campaign account cannot loan to itself” and probably will be corrected in a future financial disclosure. Transparency matters and if I am so elected, I look forward to working with Vice Mayor Povlin on making our community more transparent!

12568 Kingston Pike.



**5). I Support Building Trust and Confidence through Transparency and Ethics!**

One of the best ways to bring a community together is through building trust and confidence through transparency and ethics. I believe the Town of Farragut can do a much better job in this area of providing detailed agendas, not having “instant topics/items” appear in discussion without giving proper notice in the paper (such as a recent discussion on emergency preparedness), and to be more proactive in expanding citizen participation which includes being more engaged and respectful towards its citizenry. This also includes understanding public administration processes, procedures, and law as well as providing visibility to citizens of what is being considered.

One example of this has been the Town of Farragut’s investments of time, resources, and personnel, etc. in the planning of drastically changing the heart of Farragut at Campbell Station Road at Kingston Pike by reducing lane size to 10-foot lanes. What was recently thought as being an “initial idea” has been confirmed as a plan that has in the works for a very long time. Again, there has been no visibility of such activities until recently as confirmed by our community’s most proactive citizens’ group that watches development.

I am opposed to dangerous 10-foot traffic lanes and worry especially for our younger and older drivers! This intersection has small enough lanes already and has visibility issues due to grading and buildings adjacent to the right of way. Likewise, it is used by many grocery stores’ semi-trucks, heavy construction vehicles, and family moving companies. Regardless of the issue, we can raise the bar in providing more transparency in all matters pertaining to Town of Farragut business.

Existing Lanes Are Already Small Enough for First Responders



**PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE: EARLY VOTING is JULY 15TH – 30TH and ELECTION DAY is AUGUST 4TH.**

**www.BillJohns.com**

Bill Johns for Farragut Mayor • Phone: 865.352.1203 • email: bill.johns@tds.net \$ /In-Kind, Hosting Events, and Support are welcomed!

Paid for by “Bill Johns for Farragut Mayor”