

## **Tom Gordon**

Do you support a reduction to the cap on property tax assessments? No. Some counties cap yearly total increases. I'm in favor of revenue tax caps as property tax caps can cause localities to provide services more cost-effectively.

If elected will you support the "Constant Yield Tax Rate" for Carroll County? Yes, in the past several years recently our elected officials broke with constant yield which caused our citizens to pay more. This is a phantom tax increase on the public and is harmful to the county being competitive with surrounding counties.

Would you support Code Home Rule? It would depend in the manner in how it is written as this would be a major factor for me to consider possible support. To date our county has voted down Charter Government several times. While similar to Code Home Rule it has its differences.

Would you support Charter Government? It would depend in the manner in how it is written. The voters in our county have voted it down Charter Government several times over the years. Currently, I hear a number of voters that live throughout Carroll County who are upset that we went from 3 Commissioners at large to voting for only one Commissioner by district. All five commissioners vote on matters that affect all of the citizens of Carroll and not solely their respective districts. Some in the public feel that this current form is disenfranchising our voters.

Would you support the creation of a county-funded professional Fire Department? Possibly, it depends on how it is structured. Obviously, one of our strengths as a county has been our volunteer programs versus the cost of a county-funded professional Fire Department to date. The cost of a county-funded program would be large and currently I would like to see us do more for our volunteers which could possibly include property tax credit for those who volunteer in our Fire Departments. This could assist them for their service while helping keep the cost of a paid service down.

Would you support protecting farmers/landowners rights to be able to sell their property? Yes, they have should be allowed to sell their property.

How do you plan on working with the BOE to do what is best for students and tax payers?

I plan to work with the BOE to the best of my ability for the good of the citizens of Carroll County. First and foremost the BOE needs to make decisions regarding redistricting and also cleaning up the feeder systems for schools. They need to take a hard look at their numbers to see how they can better manage their funds. At the same time both the BOE and BOCC need to jointly agree to better conversations and discussions between both parties as the current situations of hostility at times does not served the people of Carroll County.

How would you rate Governor Hogan's performance? Excellent.

How do you plan on working with the delegation to do what is best for Carroll County? I plan to work with the delegation to the best of my ability for the good of the citizens of Carroll County. I will work with the delegation and will not attack our delegates by claiming that they are not accomplishing work in Annapolis as some have recently which is incorrect. We need an open communication between the delegation and Board of County Commissioners where both groups work for what is best for Carroll County and its residents.

Is it fair to assume prior donations to individuals and campaigns reflect your character and values? Yes, I think that ones support to individuals and campaigns does give insight and reflect on ones values.

Governor Hogan and President Trump are both Republicans. However, they have two very different approaches when it comes to governing. As a Republican, do you think that it is possible to be a supporter of both Governor Hogan and President Trump? I do believe that it is possible to be a supporter of both the Governor and the President. While their approaches may differ when governing we as Republicans must work together to both strengthen and work together for the good of the Republican party.

Have you ever been a named party in a lawsuit against the Maryland Republican party or one of the state's Republican central committees? No

Are you able to work with Republicans who have varying conservative ideologies? Yes, I can and I have always believed that we must work together for the greater good.

What is your favorite thing about living in Carroll County? Our scenic agricultural landscape and our desire as people to work together.

In three words, describe Carroll County Values. Community, Conservatism, and Agriculture

When and why did you become a Republican? I became a voting Republican when I turned 18 and have been a registered Republican ever since. I was a Republican in my beliefs and values since childhood.

Are you pro-Life? Yes, I am pro-life and I believe life is sacred.

Are you supportive of the Second Amendment? Yes, I am supporter of the Second Amendment and support it being upheld.