

**BizPac 2008 Candidate Information**

Name \_\_\_Tim Cowles\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_655-6269\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_138 Mill Creek Crossing, Madison, AL 35758 \_\_\_\_\_

Public Office You Are Seeking City Councilman District 4, Madison

Campaign Address \_\_\_ See Home Address

Education \_\_Bach of Engineering, Vanderbilt 1978, MBA Florida Institute of Tech, 1986

Work Experience \_\_Army Officer 1978-82, Army Civilian Employee, various sites and

Duties 1982-2006, Missile Defense Agency 2006-present, current job is heading

Lethality, Collateral Effects and Kill Assessment activities for the Systems Eng Director

Community Involvement \_Active in Asbury Methodist Church and Madison Greenways

And Trails prior to election, frequent attendee at city council and school board meetings

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Previous Political Experience \_\_First term councilman\_\_\_\_\_

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Campaign Organization (staff and key volunteer leaders) \_Still organizing\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a graduate of the Committee of 100's Political Training Institute? \_\_No\_\_\_\_\_

Have you received any other political training? Please describe. \_\_\_\_\_

16 hour Leadership Institute Campaign Seminar \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a graduate of the Leadership Huntsville-Madison County program? \_\_No\_\_\_\_\_

How much money have you raised to date for your campaign? \_\_\_None\_\_\_\_\_

## **2008 BizPac Interviews**

### **Madison Mayor/City Council Candidate Survey Questions**

1. Why are you running for this office and what do you hope to accomplish during the next four years? Keep the focus on infrastructure improvement while maintaining sound city finances.
2. Do you see a need for a long-range vision for Madison and/or Madison County? If so, how should it be developed? I see a need for a long range regional vision that included Madison as an integral part. The lead needs to be outside of municipal gov't, but with their involvement.
3. What do you believe is the Mayor/City Council's role in economic development? Do you support city contributions and participation in the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville-Madison County? The mayor and city council's roles are different and I'd rather discuss this difference rather than put it in print. Yes
4. Do you support strategic marketing and incentives to stimulate retail/sales tax development? If so, what is your vision for this effort? Yes and reasonable incentives. The businesses (a chamber or chambers) need to lead with gov't providing support and if necessary appropriate "face time".
5. Do you support city formation of a Madison ambulance service or do you believe the current non-profit HEMSI countywide service to be the best option? HEMSI appears to be working so why change?
6. Do you support efforts to better attract and retain the young, professional workforce to this community to fill advanced technology and other jobs? Do you have additional ideas to strengthen these efforts? Working at MDA, I see this as a key community need. Unless we do better here, I see BRAC slowing. I do have ideas, but I'd prefer to discuss them rather than write them.
7. Do you support efforts to revitalize Madison's downtown? What incentives and efforts should be provided by the city? Yes, and there are issues with the incentives I have supported. I can discuss this also.
8. What do you believe is the Mayor/City Council's role in public education? First we need to select the highest quality board that we can, then we need to support their program.
9. How would you work to improve cooperation between the Mayor and the City Council and within the City Council? This is largely personality driven. While there have been issues, this may be the best mayor/council

combination we've had in the last 20 years. I can get into this in some detail if you want during the interview.

10. How would you work to improve cooperation with Huntsville, Madison and Madison County government entities? What opportunities do you see for shared services to improve our quality of life? While we get along pretty well with the county gov't, Hsv does pretty much what they want, when they want regardless of us. That being said, during the last few years there has been cooperation on some road issues and in this case there is cause for some limited optimism. There should be cooperation on a variety of issues.
11. How would you work to stimulate state government support for local projects? I have spoken to the state legislative delegation with limited success. Madison representation at state level has not been very effective for some pragmatic reasons I can discuss.
12. Do you support collective bargaining for public employees? If so, what do you see as the advantages of a public employee union? No, I see no advantage.
13. Give an example when you believe you did the right thing, but the decision may have cost you votes. When I argued, against my small gov't principles, for the property tax increase because I believed it was the only way to improve the infrastructure we still need in Madison.