

Anthony "Tony" DeMonti

I proudly served in the United States Marine Corps for 26 years. I served in various positions where I gained in depth experience in personnel management, budgeting and project management. After retiring from the Marine Corps I worked 16 years for The Home Depot and 5 years for Lowe's. I gained more experience in real time business operations meeting budget goals, supervising associates and prioritizing expenditures.

My wife, Bobbi, and I moved to Colonial Beach two years ago after I retired for the third time. We've been married 34 years. During that time we raised 7 children who are all out in the world living their own lives.

I consider myself a fiscal conservative. The town council is the steward of our tax dollars. Those dollars should be spent on the needs of the town. A balance has to be reached to maintain the infrastructure in a safe and healthy manner that benefits everyone while allowing the town to grow.

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The one area I feel strongest about is the budget. I feel the budgeting process needs an in depth review. The review should be made with the intent of looking for waste. There should be more weight given to improving the infrastructure at least for the next couple of years. Requests for non-budgeted expenditures, except for those affecting health, safety and well being of the citizens, should be held in abeyance until a mid year review. Smarter long term planning to get projects done without having to rely on grants.

As for the infrastructure, there is a lot of work that needs to be done. It has been neglected for many years, Sidewalks need to be repaired to make them safe for people to walk on, Many roads need repair. Leaking water pipes need to be repaired or replaced. Get the erosion issues in the north beach areas under control. We want to see the town grow but the question is how can the town grow, take on more responsibility for new infrastructure if it can't take care of what it has now?

I think the Dodson projects along the boardwalk were a mistake. The boardwalk should not be a residential area, it should have remained commercial and beach related. What atmosphere we had along the boardwalk is going to be lost. Other than the Dodson projects there hasn't been much development to help the town progress. The town is in dire need of economic growth not just residential, If through controlled growth the town eventually becomes a city that's fine. However there will be a trade off. We'll no longer have that small town draw.

My key focus would be to get the roads repaired, the golf cart path up graded both for comfort of use and safety and to get a park or recreational area for the kids in the north part of town.

I believe the school system's budget should be given the same scrutiny as the town's budget. At some point the question will have to be asked if the town can continue to support it's own school system.