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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	**Ty Masterson**
Office, District	**Governor**
Party Affiliation	**Republican**

Q2

Please provide preferred contact information. This information will be made available to cities in your district.

Preferred Email Address	**ty@mastersonforgovernor.com**
Campaign Website	**www.mastersonforgovernor.com**

Q3

Please list your current occupation.

Kansas Senate President

Q4

Please briefly describe why you are running for office.

I'm running for governor to cut property taxes, protect your electric bill, back our farmers and ranchers, and make Kansas a place where families and businesses can thrive.

Q5

If you have held any elected public office previously, what position(s) did you hold?

Kansas Senate President, Senate District 16. Kansas House of Representatives, District 99. Andover City Council.

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Q6 **Yes**

Do you support the principle of local control?

Q7 **Yes**

Do you oppose state preemption of local authority?

Q8

What do you believe is the role of local government?

With around 600 cities, 105 counties, townships, and school boards, local government plays a significant role in the lives of Kansans. It clearly has a crucial role in the area of law enforcement and public safety, infrastructure, providing amenities, and in helping foster a business climate that helps elevate our economy and grow our state. However, ultimate authority rests with the people; therefore, local governments should not infringe on citizens' rights, and the state has the right to set guardrails in key areas like property taxation and to preserve compelling state interests.

Q9

Provide any additional comments you may have:

In regard to opposing state preemption of local authority, Generally, yes I do. Local decisions should be made locally. The exceptions are a compelling statewide interest or protecting individual liberties, such as a city trying to restrict residents' energy choices, or the need to protect homeowners from runaway property taxes.

I believe that state and local governments can work together to make Kansas an affordable, safe, and prosperous place to start a career, raise a family, and retire.

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Q10

Do you believe the state and cities should work together to craft effective property tax policies?

Yes

Q11

Do you believe when the state passes tax laws it requires local governments to follow, that the same laws should apply to the State?

Yes

Q12

What strategies do you propose to help lower property taxes for residents, while ensuring the continued funding of essential city services such as roads and public safety?

I believe the ultimate authority rests with the people, so I support policies that let taxpayers push back against excessive increases that outpace inflation and population growth. That balance will let cities cover services responsibly without overtaxing residents. Property tax is the only tax that taxes on unrealized gains and can result in people being taxed out of their own homes, businesses, and farms.

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Q13

Do you support collaboration between the State of Kansas and local government to identify alternatives?

Yes

Q14

Do you oppose the diversion of monies used for transportation infrastructure away from KDOT and into the general fund?

Yes

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Q15

Do you believe city and state governments should collaborate in developing policies?

Yes

Q16

Do you believe collaboration between city and state governments can lead to more efficient use of resources?

Yes

Q17

Do you support state policies that create unfunded mandates for local governments?

No

Q18

Explain your answer and/or provide any additional comments:

Nothing to explain.

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Q19

Do you support economic development incentives or programs?

Yes

Q20

Please explain your position on economic development.

I generally support those tools being available, but believe there should be guardrails around their use, so no one is using the government to pick winners and losers, reserving economic development tools for truly unique projects. I believe the best economic development tool is lower regulations and lower taxes that benefit all businesses.

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Q21

Do you support placing sunsets on sales tax exemptions so they can be reviewed in future years?

Yes

Q22

Do you support a review of all current sales tax exemptions?

Yes

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Q23

Do you believe businesses should not pay property taxes if they consider a city program comparable to its operations?

No

Q24

If a for-profit business no longer pays property taxes because of comparable programs offered by a city, should that business remain eligible to receive other taxpayer incentives and tax breaks?

No

Q25

Please provide suggestions for what criteria you believe should be used to determine if a business and city are providing comparable services.

In regard to question 23: No, if just considered comparable, but if they are in obvious direct competition, yes.

If it's in direct competition. Government should avoid competing with its own taxpayers and should be judicious in granting incentives. This is an area where the state and local governments should work with the business community to strike the appropriate balance.

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Q26

Please list your top five priorities coming into office:

Priority #1	**Property tax relief.**
Priority #2	**Making life more affordable for every Kansas family, farmer, and business owner.**
Priority #3	**Improving our educational outcomes.**
Priority #4	**Rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse in government.**
Priority #5	**Giving law enforcement the tools they need to keep Kansas a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.**

Q27

Will there be any specific legislation you plan to have introduced during the 2027 Legislative session?

I have released my Homeowners' Bill of Rights, and we will be introducing legislation reflecting its contents.

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Q28

Please use this final space to provide any comments you would like to add to this questionnaire or add any information you want the cities of Kansas to know about you.

In regard to question 14: Fuel taxes cannot be diverted under the provision of the Kansas Constitution. I do believe we need to look at protecting a better source for ongoing transportation needs that isn't stagnant like the fuel tax. General sales taxes that are statutorily directed should not be diverted for general use, but only in dire emergency situations, I would note that at least the last 6 governors (from both parties) have done this. That is why we need to find the correct stable source.

Finally, I was originally elected to local government over 20 years ago and recognize the vital role that our cities play in our state. I look forward to working with our cities to improve the lives of Kansans!