

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



184 What I Want From the Candidates for Governor

The election is a week away and I'm looking for the one thing missing in this year's gubernatorial campaign. I'm Jerry Roberts and let's look together, today, on The Extra Point.

To get to the absolute truth about the 2018 campaign it takes keen powers of journalistic observation, an incredibly deep understanding of local politics, the unparalleled ability to look beneath the shiny veneer of a slickly produced effort to capture Adelup — but since I don't have any of that, I'm just going to guess.

Let's see what we have so far.

Claims of broken promises — check.
Justification for broken promises — check.
Half-truths and untruths — check.
Nasty attack ads — yep.
Denying knowledge of who made the attack ads — uh-huh.
Calling the opponent a liar and basically a naughty person — check.
Oh yeah, and all the stuff I claim I'm gonna do if I'm elected — check.

So what's missing...hmmm...Ahh, there it is.
The thing missing from the campaigns...details.

Details? Yeah, those strange little pieces of info on not just what you say you'll do, but how you'll do it. You want examples? Here we go.

Everybody wants to fix the hospital, to put it on permanently sound financial footing. That's a very good thing. Now tell me how. Where's the money going to come from to do that...on a permanent basis? What else will you do to make it work better? Details.

Crime is a big concern. Let's put a whole bunch more police officers on the street. Absolutely. Now tell me how. Where's the money going to come from, and if you had it do you really think you'd be able to quickly pull enough people out of the community to do those jobs? Details?

Education is important and everyone says they'll make it better, to give our kids what they'll need to be competitive in the years to come. We're all for that, but you know what I'm going to say. Tell me how. Where are the details for how you'll accomplish this? What will you do that is not already being done?

I could go on but the story is the same regardless of the issue. We, the voters, get very few details. One reason for that is we don't demand them. We get soundbites, ads that promise wonderful things, and we know these people and want to believe they really do have a well developed plan. But do they?

As for the money, at least one side says it's going to come from uncollected taxes. All right. How much will you collect and how soon after you're elected will you have it in the bank? Details?

Look, I like all three candidates for governor...in alphabetical order...Frank, Lou, Ray. I've known them all for many years. I'm not buddy-buddy with any of them. None have ever invited me to their house for dinner...not that I keep track of those kind of things you understand... they're all good people who want to do a good job. I have no doubt about that.

But Frank, Lou, Ray...I'm tired of sound bites, and generic claims of how you'll make our lives better. It's not enough. I call upon all of you, this week, to step up and reveal explicit details of not just what you'll do, but how you'll do it. I'm looking for details folks...details.

That's The Extra Point. Get out there and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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