What should voters actually ask candidates?

When speaking to your candidates think about this framework....

Ask candidates:
1. What's your priority?
“What's the one thing you would change in your first year?”
2. How much will it cost?
“What's the price tag?”
3. Who pays?
“Where does the money come from?”
4. What's the timeline?
“When would residents actually see results?”
5. How will you measure success?
“What does success look like?”
6. Who needs to be at the table?
“Can you actually deliver this by yourself, or do you need the province, federal government, businesses or community partners?”
It’s key to remember that campaign promises are easy. Implementation and understanding next steps is the hard part.

Themes to think about too.....

The taxes on local businesses have been increasing each year by ~5%. This has been a huge struggle for all the businesses in Peterborough, as it slows down growth. Do you plan to keep the trend of increasing taxes or find another way to approach this?

Social issues are business issues. With the rising concern for the unhoused citizens and the addictions and mental crisis that is prevalent what is your plan if elected, to assist the Peterborough area’s business owners with the hardships they face when social issues spill into their place of business causing lost revenues and potential property damages?

As a council member, what will be your approach to people starting new businesses/moving into vacant stores? Will you change any city rules or laws to make it easier?

We have great athletes, great venues, great arts and entertainment, and a beautiful community. How do we turn all of that into a bigger tourism engine and get people not just to come for the event, but to stay, spend and discover Peterborough?

Peterborough can't grow its economy and commercial tax base if we don't have somewhere for businesses to grow. How will you balance protecting our agricultural and natural lands with making sure we have enough employment land to attract investment and create jobs and how will you work collaboratively with the County to take a regional approach to planning for that growth?

Affordability doesn’t just include the purchase price of a home; it also includes property taxes, development charges, and carrying costs. What will you do about the municipal costs on housing, and how will that make housing more affordable in our municipality?

If we genuinely believe Peterborough needs more housing, at what point do development charges, fees and approval timelines become a barrier to building it? What would you change to make it easier and more financially viable to build and still ensuring existing taxpayers aren't left carrying the cost of growth?