

Jacobs and Haney differ on taxes, immigration

By Mike Steely
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Republican Glenn Jacobs and Democrat Linda Haney agreed on several things during the League of Women Voters candidate forum at Pellissippi State College Friday night. But the forum at the Magnolia Avenue campus also heard some large disagreements from the two people who want to be the next Knox County Mayor.

Moderator Ted Hall read questions that were submitted by the audience and the one about the possibility of raising property taxes saw Haney come down with a firm "maybe." Haney said that for 25 years the county has not raised taxes and is now in debt.

"If you want these things you've got to pay for them," she said, adding that it would have been "totally logical to raise taxes slowly" over the past years.

Jacobs said there's no need to raise taxes because of "organic growth" in the county.

"We have some challenges," he said, adding that some budgets could be reduced.

Asked if they support the "287G" enforcement by the sheriff's



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Linda Haney looks over some notes prior the LWV forum Friday evening as her opponent, Glenn Jacobs, and WVLT's Ted Hall prepare for the public discussion.

East Knoxville audience when he replied.

"I do. That's the sheriff's decision," he said but said that he doesn't think the incoming sheriff will heavily enforce it.

"I don't support it in any way, it degrades families and is not something

using local law enforcement to help find illegal aliens has been tried other places and it didn't work.

In their statements Jacobs recalled his campaign slogan "Together we win" and said dialog with everyone is important. He promised, "I will always listen."

Open house tonight for Magnolia Avenue Streetscape Project

Construction gets underway next month on \$4.18 million first phase

The community is invited to ask questions and learn more about the project at an open house, 5:30 - 7 p.m. Monday, July 23, at the John T. O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St.

City Engineering and Redevelopment staff will be there Monday to talk with stakeholders one on one. Also at this open house will be Vaughn and Melton, which is providing construction engineering and inspection services, and the general contractor, The Franklin Group.

sidewalks and bike lanes.

Work will begin on the north side of Magnolia Avenue at Jessamine Street, and it will progress eastward to Myrtle Street. Then, the work will shift to the south side of Magnolia and move westward back to Jessamine.

One lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained on Magnolia Avenue throughout the project, and pedestrian access through the work zone - and access to businesses - will be maintained at all times.

A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9, in front of the KAT employee parking lot at the northeast corner of