

## A Few Jabs in Blowing Rock Candidate Forum

Written by Steve Frank

Wednesday, 23 October 2013 06:24

---

The gloves stayed on for most of the Blowing Rock candidates' forum last night, the Blowing Rock Chamber event using a format in which some questions were given ahead of time, others fielded on the fly. It was in the closing statements of mayoral candidates J.B. Lawrence and Dan Phillips that showed that the actual campaign on the street is much less congenial. J.B. Lawrence opened the criticism of his opponent's tactics, "Why did our local elections get so contentious? He's using postcards as a scare tactic to influence voters. Is this what Blowing Rock is all about? I don't think so. This is Blowing Rock, not New York City. You all are smarter than that." But Dan Phillips had the last word, "You can't be disrespectful to the small business and also disrespectful to the people. So I will assure you that when Celeste and I represent this town, we will be great ambassadors—and we won't be disrespectful to the opponent." More from the council candidates in later news. Early voting is underway, and election day is November 5th.