

9 Hopefuls Give Balance Needed To Draft Charter For New City

On Tuesday, May 16, nine charter commissioners from a field of 41 candidates will be elected to draft a charter for a new city providing incorporation receives a favorable vote.

All but 10 candidates have sent background and position statements to the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. We have carefully examined those 31 candidates and recommend nine.

Endorsed as eminently qualified are Robert McConnell, Fred Fairfield, Fred Lichtman and Edward R. Miller. Endorsed as well-qualified candidates are William Hatton, Richard Krandle, Robert Clarke, Richard Frankel and Ben Marks.

Editorial

These nine candidates can best represent the entire township area in drafting a charter containing the composite aspirations residents have for the new city.

OUR GUIDELINES in selecting the nine best qualified include desires for a geographic representation, a villager to espouse the villages' desires, expressions from homeowners and government officials, candidates knowledgeable of the community's educational system, government experts with new ideas, and a variety of professional job experiences.

A balance of views on the charter commission was the most important criterion in selecting endorsed candidates. Other candidates are well qualified but would offset the wide balance of viewpoints this newspaper believes is most desirable for residents.

BOB MCCONNELL AND FRED FAIRFIELD have been deeply involved in the Future Farmington Assn. which has led the fight for cityhood for Farmington Township during the past four years.

They are experts in state laws regarding cityhood, have worked hard toward this goal, are involved in township commissions and committees, and are business executives with leadership talents.

Fred Lichtman has served very well for the past four years as a township trustee and has maintained an independent stance, refusing to allow partisan politics to cloud issues. He serves on the zoning board of appeals, is president of Tulsa Oil Corp., is an attorney and has the ability to tear away irrelevancies to get to the heart of an issue.

Ed Miller has invaluable knowledge as a consultant for municipalities, state governments and large corporations. If Miller were not a candidate, he should be hired as a consultant to the commission. It is cheaper to elect him. His work performance is most impressive and Miller will most probably prove to be the most creative member on the commission if elected.

William Hatton has been a citizens' advocate for many years working to correct road, drainage and sewage problems in the township. He knows the inadequacies of the present system and has good ideas for improvement. Hatton has been active in cityhood and anti-annexation attempts and is well qualified to represent residents.

Richard Krandle, Wood Creek Farms village attorney, can represent viewpoints of both villages and has a background diversified enough to add important depth to the charter commission. He has experience drafting charters, has worked to improve educational quality in southwestern Wayne County, and has worked to protect the constitutional rights of citizens.

Bob Clarke is a long-time Farmington resident whose experience as a CPA can assist commissioners in obtaining the wishes of residents for a realistic millage limit for the new city. He has audited the books for 15 municipalities, 22 school districts, and two colleges. He certainly will be able to advise how a charter can be written to avoid wasteful expenditures and provide needed services without burdening taxpayers.

Dick Frankel is another long-time township resident who has been a dedicated civic servant for both township government and the school district. He has served on the township's former industrial development committee, on a county tax reform commission, on school committees and on the Farmington Board of Education.

Frankel, self-employed, knows well the township's history and is a free-thinker who will keep in mind the needs of tomorrow.

Ben Marks was a key organizer of the Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Township, helped draft its charter, and has consistently been a spokesman for homeowners.

The Farmington Enterprise & Observer supports these candidates and hopes residents will give them the opportunity to draft a creative charter to be considered by voters in a second election by voting "YES" on incorporation May 16.

FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER



ROBERT MCCONNELL, 30106 Valley Side Dr., manufacturers representative and design engineer for automotive industry, organizer and president of Future Farmington Assoc., member township planning commission. Favors city manager - council form of government with citizen participation.



FRED FAIRFIELD, 29940 Fox Grove Ct., manager Dealer and Special Publications for Ford Motor Co., past president two subdivision associations, vice-president Future Farmington Assoc. Favors city manager - city council type of government with lines of authority clearly defined. Member township's ad hoc sidewalk committee.



EDWARD R. MILLER, 28610 Kirsides, president of E. R. Miller and Associates, Inc., a management and consulting firm for selection and placement of city managers and corporation executives. Favors city manager, non-partisan, ward system council with overlapping terms, and employment of professional administrators.



RICHARD KRANDLE, 28672 W. 12 Mile, Wood Creek Farms Village attorney, drafted charter for southwestern Wayne County Economic Opportunity Group, operated first Legal Aid Bureau in western Wayne County. Favors city manager with seven-man council elected at-large with mayor appointed by council, and strict adherence to master plan.



FRED LICHTMAN, 28618 Kendallwood Dr., president of Tulsa Oil Corp., former village attorney for Wolverine Lake, Farmington Township trustee for four years, on township zoning board of appeals. Favors city manager, non-partisan council, maintenance of low density zoning, guarantee of present villages' zoning, and tax rate lowest possible consistent with required services.



RICHARD W. FRANKEL, 30300 Rockshire, owner R&B Stamp Vending Service, member Farmington Township Industrial Development Committee, an organizer of Oakland County Citizens Committee for Property Tax Reform, former member Farmington Board of Education, and CAC finance chairman. Favors city manager with weak mayor, non-partisan elections, and 10-mill tax limit.



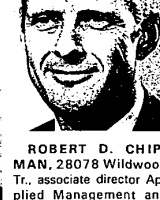
ROBERT J. CLARKE, 32573 Shady Ridge, CPA with over 20 years experience in accounting for cities, townships, school districts.



HENRY GRYSH, 31579 Rocky Crest, a systems consultant in computer field for 16 years, precinct delegate two years, chairman of Association for Computer Machinery. Favors non-partisan council elected at-large with five members serving on council.



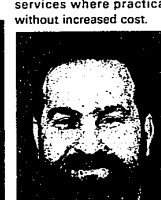
JOSEPH T. BRENNAN, 29630 Fernhill, Farmington Township attorney since 1958, represents several other municipalities. Leans towards favoring strong mayor or city manager with lines of authority detailed. Should avoid government by committee, he says and adds township residents are second-class citizens because of state law provisions.



ROBERT D. CHIPMAN, 28078 Wildwood Tr., associate director Applied Management and Technology Center, Wayne State University, 15 years community planning activities Simi Valley, Calif. Favors council-city manager form, charter emphasis on security maximum governing rights for city, flexibility, and elected council which hires manager.



MRS. JOAN D. DUDLEY, 24825 Chapelweigh, teacher, member bylaw committee Lincolnshire East Assoc. Prefers nine-member, non-partisan council with one being chosen mayor. Supports a salaried manager to be hired and councilmen limited to two consecutive terms.



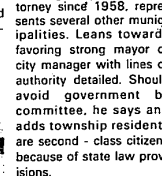
JOSEPH DER HOVANESIAN, 34550 Freedom, a professor of engineering at Oakland University, arbitrator for American Arbitration Assoc. Favors city manager by professional systems manager with council largely honorary in nature. Supports use of modern systems methodology.



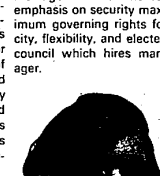
PAUL OLIVIER JR., 27107 Skye Dr. West, attorney, over 20 years experience interpreting statutes and ordinances, drafting and interpreting agreements for corporations. Favors elected rather than appointed city officials, frequent elections and referendums required on many matters.



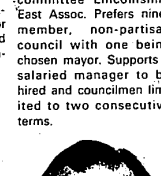
FLOYD CAIRNS, 31555 W. 11 Mile, has been Farmington Township clerk for the past 16 years.



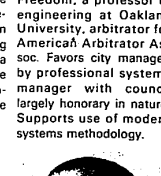
WILLIAM STEFFES, 27208 Hystone, a labor relations administrator. Favors government with executive department with offices being mayor, clerk, treasurer, auditor, corporation counsel, and comptroller, and a council and board to channel resident complaints.



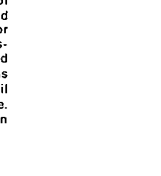
MRS. DONNA SKLAR, 25302 Branchester, worked closely with Southfield officials on many public issues, active in mayoral and council elections and subdivision association president there two years. Member of Future Farmington Assoc. Favors city manager, strong council, weak mayor.



JAMES ABOWD, 29298 W. 12 Mile, Harrison High senior, Farmington Soroptimist and regional Soroptimist citizenship award winner, many awards in debate and JA activities. Favors city manager, weak mayor with a district elected council totaling nine members. Districts to be proportioned to enable a voice for both villages, south and north ends of township.



ROBERT BRIGGS, 21615 Oxford, a retired metallurgist, for 30 years managed a corporate research laboratory, served on inter-industry committees creating and evaluating documents. Favors city manager and council with members voted on every two years, strict financial accountability and charter limit on taxes.



ART PUSEY, 32545 W. 11 Mile, has worked as merchandising-department manager, technical records group supervisor, and industrial engineer. Lived in township 20 years. Favors strong mayor, non-partisan council form of government with five members on council with type of ward system used.

SAMPLE BALLOT

<input type="checkbox"/> JAMES E. ABOWD	<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT J. CLARKE
<input type="checkbox"/> JOSEPH T. BRENNAN	<input type="checkbox"/> FREDERICK LICHTMAN
<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAM H. BREDENTINE	<input type="checkbox"/> BEN MARKS
<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT J. BRIGGS	<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT A. MCCONNELL
<input type="checkbox"/> FLOYD A. CAIRNS	<input type="checkbox"/> RICHARD W. FRANKEL
<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT DAVIS CHIPMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> EDWARD R. MILLER
<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT J. CLARKE	<input type="checkbox"/> JOHN F. GORRICK
<input type="checkbox"/> JOSEPH DER HOVANESIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> PAUL E. OLIVIER, JR.
<input type="checkbox"/> JOAN D. DUDLEY	<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAM A. ORTMAN
<input type="checkbox"/> JAMES H. EBL	<input type="checkbox"/> ARTHUR C. PUSEY
<input type="checkbox"/> FREDERICK W. FAIRFIELD	<input type="checkbox"/> EUGENE L. RUFFING
<input type="checkbox"/> JAMES H. FOX	<input type="checkbox"/> EDWIN J. SCARF
<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT W. FRANKEL	<input type="checkbox"/> DONALD E. SIKAR
<input type="checkbox"/> MATTHEW H. GORDON	<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAM B. SMOLEK
<input type="checkbox"/> E. MARSHALL GREENE	<input type="checkbox"/> ANDREW P. SIOGA
<input type="checkbox"/> HENRY E. GRYSH	<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAM PETER STEFFES
<input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT C. HANCOCK	<input type="checkbox"/> KARE TUPLES
<input type="checkbox"/> E. ERIC HARNACK	<input type="checkbox"/> ANDREW F. VALENTI
<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAM H. HATTON	<input type="checkbox"/> HERBERT E. VEDENBERG
<input type="checkbox"/> ALBERT L. HOLTZ	<input type="checkbox"/> THOMAS J. WYNNBERGER
<input type="checkbox"/> JOE CURTIS CLARKE	