

# League Of Women Voters Guide Provides Charter Hopefuls, Ballot Proposals Summary

## CHARTER COMMISSION CANDIDATES

Nine commissioners will be elected to draft a charter for the city of Farmington Hills, should the incorporation proposal be approved.

In addition to biographical information, each candidate was asked the following question:

1. What additional training and experience have you had which would qualify you for this office? (25 word limitation).

2. What type or form of city government do you favor for Farmington Hills? Why? (50 word limitation).

**JAMES R. ABOWD, 2928 W. 12 Mile.** Graduating from Harrison High School June 1972. Attended communication and debate workshops past three summers. Student Council president, state champion debater (16th in nation), regional speech award, merit, numerous speech and organizational awards.

"Farmington Hills should have a city manager-weak mayor situation with the mayor acting as president of a district elected council totaling nine members. These districts will be specially proportioned to enable a voice from Wood Creek Village, Quakertown, south and north ends of the township to respond. However, they will not violate one man, one vote principle."

**JOSEPH T. BRENNAN, 2930 Fernhill, LLB.** University of Detroit, 1964. Practicing attorney, specializing in municipal law. Farmington Township attorney since 1958. Represents several other municipalities. Past chairman, Public Law Section, State Bar Association. Member Michigan Society of Planning Officials.

"Not committed. Charter should set out clear lines of responsibility and authority. Strong mayor or city manager forms would tend to do this. Should avoid government by committee where no single official is charged with directing the administrative functions of the city subject to direction of the council."

**WILLIAM N. BRIDENSTINE, 30095 Mullane.** Did not respond to questionnaire.

**ROBERT H. BRIGGS, 2615 Oxford.** BS (research chemist) Wayne State University, 1952. Post graduate courses in metallurgy and engineering. Retired from Eaton-Corbin in 1971. Consultant: metallurgy. For 30 years, manager, a corporate research laboratory, served on inter-industry committees, creating and evaluating documents which were precisely stated to cover general objectives.

"For policy making, I favor a city council with manager control by the voters every two years. For prompt and economical administration, the executive must have sufficient power to function efficiently. Strict financial accountability and charter limitations on taxes are mandatory. Citizens are fed up with constantly increasing taxes."

**FLOYD CAIRNS, 32924 W. 13-Mile.** Did not respond.

**ROBERT D. CHIPMAN, 2078 Wildwood Trail.** BS (civil engineering) University of Colorado, 1946. MS (engineering) UCLA, 1952. Two additional years (engineering mgmt.) UCLA. Ten continuing education courses in data processing, materials technology, technical writing, design, management, and planning. Center (division of Urban Extension, Wayne State University). Fifteen years community planning and development activities, seven years Simi Valley, Calif., during unprecedented growth prior to incorporation. Eight years, Southeastern Michigan, area development study for Mormon Church.

"Council-manager. 'Guideline' charter with separate administrative code.

Emphasis on securing to city maximum governing rights permitted by state statutes. Emphasis on flexible charter which requires responsible city council (elected) and professional city manager (hired by council). This form is adaptable to changing situations without requiring repeated amendments."

**ROBERT J. CLARKE, 32573 Shady Ridge, BBA-MBA,** University of Michigan, Certified Public Accountant, partner in firm. Over 20 years experience in accounting and auditing cities and municipalities. Civic leadership as president of Farmington Jaycees, Exchange Club and United Fund.

"I believe the city charter should have a non-partisan city manager form of government. In this manner, the trained and experienced leaders can direct the orderly development of the Farmington community during its continued growth for the foreseeable future."

**JOSEPH DER HOVANSIAN, 34550 Freedom Rd.** BS (vocational education), MA (administrative education), PhD (engineering) Michigan State University, 1958. Professor of education, arbitrator - American Arbitration Association in the settlement of large municipal and industrial disputes. Served on numerous national study panels and committees.

"City manager by a professional city manager. Council would be largely honorary in nature. Modern systems methodology as specified in the book 'The City as a System,' (Gibson) would be the form which would be used to attain optimal decision making and efficiency and economy in the offering of services. Delphi methods of community goal identification would be employed."

**JOAN D. DUDLEY, 23229 Chapelview.** BS (Biology) University of Detroit. Graduate work at Wayne State University. Permanent Michigan Secondary Teaching Certificate. Substitute teacher for Farmington School District. Lincolnshire, Ill. bly committee and an officer, Farmington Newcomers Club officer.

"I prefer a non-partisan, nine member council, one being chosen as mayor. They will be paid a small stipend per meeting. A salaried manager will be hired. Elected officials should be limited to two consecutive terms. This organization will best prevent political machines and insure a more responsive government."

**JAMES H. EEBEL, 2942 Gover Court.** BA Albion College, JD Detroit College of Law. Attorney at law. Through occupation Attorney for Township of Southfield, Farmington Library Board of Trustees - chairman, 1971-72. "City manager, seven to nine councilmen with councilman obtaining majority as mayor. A form of government with a professional, full-time city manager supported by a council of community dedicated citizens."

**FREDERIC W. FAIRFIELD, 2940 Fox Grove Ct.** BA (economics) Oberline College, 1940. Employed in field of public relations by Ford Motor Co. since 1949. Currently, manager, editor and Special Publications Department. President - two subdivision associations. Vice president - Future Farmers Association. Charter Commission candidate, 1969. Worked for incorporation and against attempt to annex township territory.

"Based on the projected size of Farmington Hills and the fact it is primarily a commuting community, I favor a city council - professional city manager type of government, with lines of authority clearly defined. The council should be of sufficient size to adequately represent the city's population."

University (with distinction). Publisher - Farmington Forum, Southfield Nov. Sun-Forum. Worked with charter commission setting up Southfield city government, 1958. Fifteen years experience dealing with local governmental problems in City of Farmington, Farmington Township, Novi, Southfield. "City manager appointed by elected non-partisan council. Mayor should be candidate getting highest number of votes in non-partisan election. Am opposed to ward or district council representation, as this has proved a source of graft throughout history of politics in America. Would favor election of council at large."

**RICHARD W. FRANKEL, 30300 Rockshire.** AB University of Michigan, 1947. Graduate work in mathematics, University of Michigan. Registered professional engineer, Owner - R & B Stamp Vending Service. Member Farmington Township Industrial Development Committee. One of the organizers of Oakland County Citizens Committee for Property Tax Reform. Member Farmington Board of Education, Chairman, Finance Committee, Michigan State Citizens School Advisory Committee.

"City manager with weak mayor or council president. This would enable the services of qualified professionals rather than depend on the very limited abilities of local politicians. I favor a non-partisan electoral system at the local level because I don't think there are partisan solutions to problems such as municipal services, etc. I would draw on all the community for elected officials rather than a majority party. Favor a 10 mill ceiling on local taxing power."

**MAYNARD M. GORDON, 32085 Old Franklin Dr.** Wayne State University. Editor and publisher - Motor News Analysis, The Imported Car Reports, Gordon Reports, and Auto World (all automotive newsletters). Past president - PTA. Past president - homeowners association.

"Strong mayor form, with seven member council, four districts and three members elected at large. Mayor would be chosen separately, together with clerk and treasurer. All officials would have four-year terms and no overlapping. Mayor entirely non-partisan. Ombudsman is desirable 'government watcher'."

**E. MARSHALL GREENE, 2725 Woodview Dr.** BS Ohio State University. Attended Wayne Law School two years. Businessman. Former precinct delegate, state convention delegate. Ten years of residential, governmental agencies and legislative bodies.

"City manager. Weak mayor. Simple Structure. Minimum responsibilities. Controls to prevent empire building and to keep costs down."

**HENRY GRYSH, 31579 Rocky Road Dr.** BA (math) Wayne State University, 1957. Graduate work on the job courses, such as "Professional Business Management." Systems thinking in computer field two years. Precinct delegate 16 years. Chairman of Association for Computer Machinery.

Non-partisan with candidate elected at-large to encourage best people to run for office, regardless of party or location. Also favor five-man council and professional management for orderly and effective government."

**RICHARD C. HABICHT, 34665 Britany.** Engineering degree Northwestern University. Owner, operator, laundries and dry cleaning business. Quakertown Village councilman and president, PTA vice president. Farmington Goodfellow's chairman.

"Non-partisan, strong council-city manager form. This type of government is less apt to produce political

bickering and has a better chance of being an efficient and business like type of government."

**E. REED HARNACK, 29106 Glencaeste.** Did not respond.

**WILLIAM E. HATTON, 34526 W. 9 Mile.** BS (chemistry) Indiana University, Post graduate study Indiana University, Yale University. Senior research chemist, M & T Chemicals, subsidiary of American Can Company. Farmington Township Board and Civic Association - helped write by-laws, past president. Farmington Township ad hoc sidewalk committee - chairman. Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington - helped revise by-laws. Candidate for Farmington Township trustee, 1968, 1970.

"City government should be a council-manager form. The council should be regionally representative, elected on a non-partisan ballot. All offices except councilman should be filled by appointed, trained professionals. This system should keep the government

(Following is informational material compiled by the West Bloomfield-Farmington Area League of Women Voters for voters on the May 16 incorporation and primary elections. The League is a national, non-partisan organization established to encourage citizen participation in government. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate but tries to obtain factual information on candidates and their views.

Publication of this guide was made possible by many local citizens who contribute to the finance drive of the league, Box 157, Orchard Lake, Mich., and by the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. For further information, contact: Mrs. Richard Gould, league president; Mrs. Jerome Solomon, voters service; or Mrs. Merrill Hamburg, membership.

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response to the voters in stilling confidence. It should also keep the government concerned with local matters."

**AL. HOLTZ, 32276 Tareyton.** Did not respond.

**JOE C. KILMER, 28872 Glenarden.** Graduate of Wayne State University (accounting). Additional year of engineering study. Sales manager - Engine and Foundry Division, Ford Motor Co. Sound financial background, keen analyst, strong management talents and top administrative experience. Citizens Advisory Council. Westbrook Homeowners Association - officer. NFWB Little League - officer.

"Non-partisan council and mayor-headed by professional city manager. Strong commercial zoning to continue our community as residential. Operating budget based on current tax revenues with no tax increases without voter approval. Broad recreation program for our youth. Charter developed from that of other successful cities of our size."

**RICHARD F. KRANDLE, 28672 W. 12 Mile.** BA Wayne State University, 1957. 1949 LLB Wayne University Law School, 1951. Licensed to practice law in 1951. Attorney in private practice. Drafted the charter and by-laws for Suburban Wayne County Economic Opportunity Group. Operated the first Legal Aid Bureau in Western Wayne County. Village Attorney for Wood Creek Farms.

"Since the population is small and tax base low, I would recommend a city manager form of government with a seven-man council, the mayor being appointed from the council and by the council. The mayor and council are to be elected at-large and would serve for only a nominal consideration. There should be strict adherence to the master plan for orderly economic development and residential growth. The motto should be 'Progress Through Planning and Engineering.'"

**FREDERICK LICHTMAN, 28518 Kendallwood.** LLB Detroit College of Law, 1951.

President. Tulsa Oil Corp. Village Attorney, Wolverline Lake, 1954. Trustee, Farmington Township. Chairman, education committee for 1967 incorporation attempt.

"Non-partisan, city manager type. Charter should maintain low density zoning, current master plan, and should guarantee the integrity of present Wood Creek and Quakertown zoning. Tax rate should be the lowest possible consistent with required services."

**ROBERT A. MCCONNELL, 30108 Valley Side Dr.** BS Wayne State University, MA (business administration) Wayne State University, SIE National Honor Society, LTI Belfast College of Technology. Chairman, Church of Farmington - helped design and design engineer to the automotive industry. Charter member of Council of Homeowners Associations. Organized Future Farmington Association on demise of Citizens for a Better Farmington. Commissioner - Farmington Township Planning Commission.

"A council-manager form of government would be of the best interests of our citizens. It would stress citizen participation for dollars invested. Development of community goals by the Charter Commission would be acceptable to majority of voters."

**JOHN P. OGUREK, 34098 Glouster.** Did not respond.

**PAUL T. OLIVER, JR., 27107 Sky Drive West.** Wayne University, JD Detroit College of Law. Attorney. Over 20 years experience involving the interpretation of statutes and ordinances as well as the drafting and interpreting of agreements involving private corporations and individuals.

"To assure responsiveness to the will of the people, many members of city government as practical should be elected rather than appointed, elections should be frequent, and referendums required on many matters. Government authority should be limited to necessities, such as, roads, police and fire protection, zoning, and sanitation."

**WILLIAM A. ORTMAN, Esq., 28010 S. Harwich.** AB Wayne State University, LLB University of Detroit, JD University of Detroit. Attorney and counselor. Taught subjects of civics and government classes in high school. Held responsible positions in government and private industry for many years. Wood Creek Farms councilman - two terms.

"I believe this question is a little premature. Let's give the voters a chance to say they want a change first; then to elect candidates; then to select a best form of government for our area."

**ARTHUR C. PUSEY, 32545 W. 11 Mile.** Did not respond.

**EUGENE E. RUFFING, 26277 Kiltartan.** BS (Metallurgical Engineering) Syracuse University. Chief chemist and Metallurgist, Chevrolet Motor Division, G.M. Corporation.

"I favor a manager-council form of city government with the manager responsible for operating the city to the council. Council to be elected by the voters as those living in the district.

**MRS. BOPP** urges all citizens to participate to make this a successful project. Even though some persons give at their place of employment, she hopes they will donate a pint on May 15 to help the community program.

An individual may donate every eight weeks and up to five times a year. Giving blood is a safe and simple process with competent medical personnel collecting it.

If a person doesn't belong to a blood program, a unit of blood may cost from \$5 - \$8 at time of need.

Appointments between the 3 - 9 p.m. are preferable. To make appointments, contact Mrs. Bopp.

21023 Orchard Lake. Did not respond.

**EDWARD R. MILLER, 28610 Kirkside.** BS (management) University of Colorado, 1959. MS (Industrial Management) University of Colorado, 1959. Blake's Managerial Grid Phase I & II, 1965. "Management of Improvement" Symposium Georgia Institute of Technology, 1969. President and treasurer, E.R. Miller and Associates, Inc. (management and consulting firm involved in the selection and placement of city managers and corporation executives). Municipal search assignments: Pontiac-city manager, planning administrator; Iowa City, Iowa-city manager; Muskegon-county administrator; Ypsilanti-city manager; Detroit-department managers; Illinois-state income tax.

"Strong manager-mayor, non-partisan, ward system with overlapping terms. Employment of professional administrators offers best chance to achieve maximum services and citizen participation for dollars invested. Development of community goals by the Charter Commission would be acceptable to majority of voters."

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form of city government with the manager responsible for operating the city to the council. Council to be district composed with one or two at large. Council district boundaries along rather than through subdivisions. Subdivision associations could influence area council member. City manager could adopt modern techniques of maximum utilization of facilities, equipment, personnel."

**EDWIN J. SCARTH, 21320 Whitlock.** Did not respond.

**DONNA J. SKLAR, 23302 Branchester.** BS (education) majors - English, speech. Wayne State University. Domestic activities director. Voluntarily attended weekly council meetings in Southfield. Worked closely with city officials on many public issues. Active in major North city council elections. Subdivision association president for two years. Future Farmington Association - poster chairman.

"The most responsive and efficient form of government is one with a strong council, weak mayor and a professional city manager to handle the everyday business of government. The mayor, elected directly by popular vote, should have veto power. The city manager would be responsible to the council. This would provide a good set of checks and balances."

**WILLIAM B. SMOLEK, 28890 Wellington.** Business Administration major, Northwestern University. Post graduate work I.E. Akron, Ohio University. Owner, president - Air-Matic Products Co., Inc. (machine shop). I am 56 years of age and have spent most of my active life in community and professional work, including seven years on the council of Wood Creek Farms.

"I probably lean toward a city manager, weak mayor, strong council form of city government. However, I would like to keep an open mind pending a study of the neighboring communities and a review of the good and bad points of the various forms previously chartered. Superficially, this appears to be one of the most efficient today."

**ANDREW S. SROKA, 29910 Mirion.** Did not respond.

**WILLIAM P. STEFFES, 27208 Hystone.** Bachelor degree, College of Liberal Arts, Wayne State University. Attended graduate school, Wayne State University. Labor union relations administrator.

"A form of government that embraces an executive department whose officers shall be a mayor, city clerk, and city treasurer; a legislative department, i.e., councilmen; an auditor; and a board to channel complaints for residents; a corporation counsel; and a comptroller. Such form should provide efficient city government."

**EARL TEEPLES, 30155 W. 14 Mile.** Two years college. Continuing self education through various courses. Township supervisor.

"I believe that this decision will require each voter to research the evidence for himself and come to that decision in his own heart. No politician should make that decision for him. It is the choice of the people and community officials should be careful that they serve the people, not their own personal or business interests when thinking of these things."

**ANDREW F. VALENTI, 25298 Wykechire Dr.** LLB, JD, University of Detroit Law School; attorney; assistant corporation counsel, City of Detroit for 10 years; past president Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys; member Mayor's Committee on Charter Revision, City of Detroit.

"I would favor a council or commission form of government with appointment by council or commission of a city manager. Council or commission members to be elected on a non-partisan

ballot and at-large. I believe this form to be the most responsive to the electorate. I do not favor partisan elections or ward or district elections as I believe the same to be divisive and tend to move too easily toward self and group interests."

**DR. H.E. VIERGUTZ, 30470 Grand River.** Graduate of Central Missouri State Teachers College, Cornell University, Colorado State University. Doctorate (veterinary medicine), 1937. Veterinarian. Founded and organized Farmington Lions Club. Member and past president of home community club for 30 years (Farmington Township Lions Club). Commanding officer. Many years experience in military organization.

"A trained and experienced city manager, with weak mayor and elected council to make policies. This type of city government would be more viable for a progressive city. I also advocate limited taxation and increased business activity for broad tax base. Above all we must have equal representation from the total population."

**THOMAS J. WEISENBERGER, 27941 Brandywine.** Did not respond.

## PROPOSITIONS BALLOT VOTE YES OR NO

**STATE PROPOSAL A:** Proposed constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to authorize lotteries and to permit the sale of lottery tickets. This amendment would allow the legislature to enact laws to authorize lotteries and to permit the sale of lottery tickets. Shall this amendment be adopted?

**STATE PROPOSAL B:** Proposed constitutional amendment to permit members of the Legislature to resign and accept another office to which they have been elected or appointed. This amendment would permit members of the legislature to be elected or appointed to another civil office during the term for which they were elected. Before accepting that office they would be required to resign from their legislative office. Shall this amendment be adopted?

**LOCAL PROPOSAL:** For incorporation of the home rule city of Farmington Hills described as: Town 1 North, Range 9 East, Farmington Township, Oakland County, Mich., which township is bounded on the north by 14 Mile Rd., on the east by Inkster Rd., on the south by 8 Mile Rd., (also known as Baseline Road), and on the west by Haggerty Rd., including the existing villages of Quakertown and Woodcrest Farms but excepting therefrom that part of Farmington Township within the corporate limits of the City of Farmington.

**LOCAL PROPOSAL:** Confirming grant of franchise to The Detroit Edison Company, for the purpose of the erection, construction and maintenance of towers, poles, mains, wires, pipes, conduits, apparatus, etc., required for the transmission, transforming and distribution of electricity for public and private use.

**ADVISORY PROPOSAL:** Do you favor immediate legislative action to place a moratorium on any court-ordered busing of school children?

**ADVISORY PROPOSAL:** Do you favor an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the forced busing of school children?

If you will be away from home on May 16, you may obtain an absentee ballot from the township clerk's office. Your ballot must be returned to the clerk's office on or before election day to be counted.

The league will sponsor a "meet the candidates night" on Thursday, May 11, at 8 p.m. in the cafeteria of O.E. Dunkel Junior High. Candidates will speak and public is welcome.