

7 vying for 3 council trustee posts

By ALICE COLLINS

FRANKLIN—How to protect the village from encroaching commercial development—and how to do it without "gouging" and unsuccessful litigation—is a primary issue facing Franklin, according to a majority of the candidates for council in Monday's (March 10) election.

Franklin voters will be picking three council trustees from a field of seven, a village clerk and two members of the library board, all for two-year terms.

Three council candidates, incumbents Philip Price and Virginia DeBennam Rodgers and current treasurer Philip Martzoff, say a new residential zoning classification similar to the cluster housing ordinance now under consideration, may be the answer for buffer areas in the village. Candidate William Halliday calls for a "complete examination and reappraisal of the present ordinances."

All but one of the other council candidates indicated their desires for maintaining the single-family residential character of the village but did not indicate in an Observer & Eccentric questionnaire which direction they would take in opposing commercial development.

Council trustee candidates are as follows:

SHIRLEY BEAUDETTE, 32955 Chatham Lane, is a speech therapist with a B.A. degree from Michigan State University. She is active in parent-teacher organizations, sorority and university alumni groups.

"Urbanism is forcing us off of our land, destroying every landscape, and flushing its waste throughout rivers," Mrs. Beaudette stated. "Let us...return development to the city; there are no land shortages there."

WILLIAM HALLIDAY, 3889 Rosemead Drive, is a former president and currently a director of the Franklin Community Association. He is a sales engineer and was educated at Southern Technical College. He served on the Franklin Volunteer Police Department.

In addition to calling for the examination of present ordinances, Halliday continued, "The most important factor in any segment of government is fiscal responsibility to the community."

DR. H. FRANK JINIAN, 38845 Helmandale Drive, is an osteopath and spokesman-president of the Helman Woods subdivision home owners association.

In addition to degrees in osteopathy and chiropractic, Dr. Jinian has a B.S. in biology and studied at Wayne State and Michigan State universities.

"The most important issue in Franklin Village," said Dr. Jinian, "is to maintain and sustain the single-family residential character which aids in the scenic, picturesque quality of the village."

PHILIP MARTZOFF, 32529 Haverford Drive, has been village treasurer since 1972, with one year to go in his current term. He is a manufacturing executive with a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

"I believe the next council will have a most difficult job in balancing revenues with expenses," Martzoff declared, citing expected declines in state-shared revenues and "astronomically high bids for Hunter Whip's restoration" and anticipated increases in regular village expenses as the reason.

Martzoff said he favors changes to the zoning ordinance to make it defensible in court. "The record of last years shows the ordinance, as now drawn, to be defective in the respect," he said.

"After this has been accomplished," Martzoff continued, "I favor litigation to defend it."

PHILIP PRICE, 22616 Colony Hill, was village treasurer from 1970-71 and

is completing his second term as council trustee. He is executive vice president and treasurer of U.S. Tool and Cutter Co. and has a B.A. degree in accounting from Michigan State University.

"The problem of zoning and land use eclipses any and all others in the village," Price declared. "And prompt and affirmative action must be taken to protect our Telegraph Road frontage from total uncontrolled development."

"We either reconize this frontage for an acceptable and enforceable land use," Price continued, "or we end up with costly and unsuccessful litigation and completely unneeded land."

VIRGINIA DEBENNAM RODGERS, 3889 Wellington Drive, has been a council trustee since 1972, a Franklin Library trustee for eight years and editor of the Franklin Village for three years.

Mrs. Rodgers is an account representative with the Merchandising Group of New York City and received her education at Jamestown School of Business and Rider College in Lawrenceville, N. J.

She is council's liaison to the historic commission and the historic society and is chairman of the village bicentennial commission.

Mrs. Rodgers said she didn't favor the cluster housing ordinance in the form it was presented recently to council. "I do feel however, that such an ordinance is needed in the commercial development and give our legal counsel another classification to fight with," she explained.

She said she would favor a "lighter ordinance that would provide for larger land areas and less density," and such zoning "should only be used in cases where residential areas are being threatened by commercial development."

LEE TEMPLETON, 3889 Carol, is a Detroit newspaper executive recently appointed to the village planning commission. Templeton received a B.A. degree from Babette Wallace College with majors in government and economics.

He is a director of the Central Business District Association, Junior Achievement, the convention bureau,

and the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies. He also belongs to many professional associations.

Templeton did not offer any comments in the questionnaire on the issues facing the village.

Village clerk Helen Steckley, 32961 Haverford, is opposed in her contest for reelection by newcomer Laurie A. Young, 3881 Evelyn Court.

Miss Young is a travel agent. She received her B.A. degree in speech in 1968, is a member of the Franklin Community Church and the Franklin Volunteer Fire Department.

"It is my understanding that Franklin needs a new village clerk," said Miss Young, "one who would devote full time and energy to the duties of that office, and who would be able to serve the village and the public objectively."

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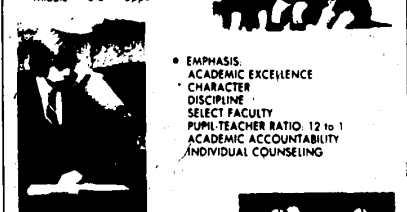
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