

VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BRANDON

Tuesday, November 3, 2020
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: my.lww.org/michigan/oakland-area

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Phone: 248-594-6602

1 Candidate for TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR for ONE 4-year term

JAYSON W. RUMBALL 4699 Seymour Lk. Rd., Oxford, MI 48371

1 Candidate for TOWNSHIP CLERK for ONE 4-year term

ROSELYN BLAIR 1820 N. Hurd, Ortonville, MI 48462

1 Candidate for TREASURER for ONE 4-year term

SCOTT BROUGHTON 2420 Granger Rd., Ortonville, MI 48462

6 Candidates for TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE for FOUR 4-year terms

CANDIDATES for TRUSTEE FOUR 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than FOUR</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Township office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?
<i>Democrat</i> CARRIE MIDDLETON 641 N. Hurd Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	

BRANDON TOWNSHIP (Continued)

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<p><i>Republican</i> DANA M. DEPALMA 1805 Oakwood Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>I have lived in Brandon Township since 2003. Brad and I have been married for 16 years. We have two children, Kayla (14) and Ryan (12). I am a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). I graduated from Walsh College with a Bachelor of Accountancy. I currently work for Rochester Radiology as their practice manager.</p> <p>I have served on the Brandon Township Board of Trustees for 10 years. I was appointed on the Board in 2011 and then I was voted into office for a 4-year term in 2012 and in 2016.</p> <p>I am running for Trustee to continue to utilize my financial skills and knowledge to help Brandon be the best it can be. My professional experience allows me to understand how to look outside the box when making those important board decisions. As a current Trustee, I am familiar with the operations and would continue to help the Board be fiscally responsible and make the right decisions for the residents and businesses of Brandon Township. With having over 25 years of Governmental and Business Accounting experience, I have been able to help the board cut costs and understand finances. I am hardworking, honest, open minded and I value our community and feel I can make a difference for Brandon Township.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget: The revenues are vital & will be even more critical with the impact of COVID-19 on the economy. Every line item will need to be analyzed. A solid 5-year balanced budget needs to be in place to help the fund balances & savings be maintained. Spending needs to be controlled & expenses verified to ensure the necessity. Current & future liabilities need to be accounted for correctly & payment schedules need to be followed. 2. Ordinances: I would work towards making sure the ordinances are consistent with the needs & wants of the residents & businesses. 3. Community & services: I would continue to help support Brandon Township to be a desirable & friendly rural community to live in that offers small town places to shop & eat at and that provides services, activities & programs for residents of all ages. I support the recreation department, the senior center & police & fire services. I feel Brandon can be the best in the class if all aspects of operations & services are looked at to see where improvements can be made. We need to work together with the Village, DDA, Chamber, BGYA, Library & Schools to help achieve this. I will continue to work hard for the residents & businesses.

BRANDON TOWNSHIP (Continued)

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<p><i>Republican</i> ROBERT S. MARSHALL 3368 Breezewood Ct. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>I have served in law enforcement/public safety for 32 years. I continue to teach college level Criminal Justice courses. I take great pride in having served my community with integrity. Through my class instruction, I continue to educate future law enforcement professionals to provide high quality, high integrity service to the public. I am seeking re-election to the position of Brandon Township Trustee, as I feel that I represent the best interests of the township community. I am a "no-nonsense" type of person. I weigh the facts about a decision, and will arrive at a position that I believe is logical. You will never see or hear me playing "politician". Some people will hold back until they can evaluate, which side of the fence the majority falls, and then take that as their own position. Since serving on the Board of Trustees, one of the comments made about me, that I take great pride in, was made by David Fleet, Editor of the Citizen Newspaper. "I don't always agree with your position, but I ALWAYS know where you stand on an issue." I have a clear set of priorities for the community that plays an important part in my decision making process.</p>	<p>I was raised that it is important to take care of those who are unable to care for themselves. In our community that means giving law enforcement, the fire service and our senior center the tools that they need to advance this higher calling and mission. With the community just beginning to see how the economic impact of Covid-19 may negatively effect the Township, it is important that we do not lose sight of what is truly important. Aligning causes/projects into two columns, "Essential" and "It Would Be Nice" is a clear cut way to differentiate between the two. I have seen Township projects that failed because the emotion of the moment and the argument of "But wouldn't it be nice", won out over the logic of facts, that dictated another avenue. Now, more then ever, clear cut decisive thinking is going to be essential.</p> <p>For those who may not see my name on political signs and advertisements, there is a reason for that. I have dedicated to spending "not a single dime" in my re-election campaign. I hope people ask me questions, study what I have done in the past, and ask their neighbors about me to make a decision on voting for me based upon who I am and not on what I have spent.</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> KATHY THURMAN 437 N. Hadley Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	
<p><i>Republican</i> STEVEN UNRUH 5933 Seymour Lk. Oxford, MI 48371</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

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<p><i>No party affiliation</i> HEATH D. ZIETZ 3081 S. Hadley Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462</p>	<p>I am an Electrical Engineer working in the automotive sector for the last 17 years. My wife and I have lived in the Township for 12 years and our two sons are attending Brandon Elementary. I am concerned about our township's declining school enrollment numbers and I wanted to get more involved within the community. I have attended the township board meetings for ~ 2 years and I felt that there was not a lot of compromise on major topics that came up in the past. Being an engineer I feel my expertise in data analysis would be a valuable asset to the community. Furthermore, my decisions are always based on data and reason, not gut feelings. I grew up in the country and have lived in the city, so I understand the arguments from both sides of keeping Brandon Township rural yet also having some amenities for the younger families.</p> <p>My main goal as a trustee is to bring compromise to the board and help make Brandon a welcoming community for families.</p>	<p>1) Taxes - Brandon has the highest share service (police / fire/ library) taxes compared to our neighboring towns/cities. I would look at ways that we can reduce the millage for these services to help get us in line with surrounding communities. One way is promoting Pay-per-call firefighters (volunteer firefighters), currently we have 3x more firefighters on payroll per resident than our surrounding communities, yet we have no one currently volunteering. Small communities like ours depend on volunteers.</p> <p>2) Sewers- Lack of sewers is hurting our business district. I support sewers, but if the cost is too great, I cannot justify burdening our businesses with that cost alone. I would work with our state representatives to see what kind of state and federal funding we could get to help offset the installation cost.</p> <p>3) I would review our ordinances for outbuildings, propose bike lanes for our roads and improve transparency by keeping our current social media pages up to date. In general, help make Brandon a welcoming community for families and increase awareness for the residents so they can easily get involved.</p>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.