

VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN

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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

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2 Candidates for VILLAGE PRESIDENT for ONE 4-year term

<p>CANDIDATES for VILLAGE PRESIDENT</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Village President and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your village and what actions would you, as a village official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>WILLIAM L. LAMOTT 26475 Scenic Dr., Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>I am a 22 year resident with a passion for history and historic preservation. I have been involved in the Franklin Historical Society, the Franklin Cemetery Board and Mobile Watch. I also was a member of the Village Council from 2004 to 2011. After taking several years off, I rejoined the Council in 2018. My wife, Ann, and I provided day care for our five grandchildren for 11 years. I am a graduate of Purdue University and have an MBA from The University of Detroit. During my working career, I held various purchasing and logistics positions at Ford and Chrysler. I am committed to an open government that emphasizes collaboration and compromise to get the job done in a cost effective manner.</p>	<p>1 .Parts of downtown Franklin look shabby and need significant improvements. I’m committed to fixing the problem in a cost effective manner. The present plan will significantly deteriorate the historic character of our Village center. It needs to be amended so downtown looks good in support of our merchants and, at the same time, maintains the historic character.</p> <p>2 .I am concerned that the current village council tried to move forward with new sidewalks in residential areas even though our charter prohibits it. We should not consider new sidewalks until voters approve or reject a comprehensive village-wide plan.</p> <p>3. We need elected officials who conduct themselves in a civil and inclusive manner, not only to each other but to the residents they represent – especially when they strongly disagree. During my working career, I took great pride in leading groups of people to find consensus, get organized and get things done. I will strive to do the same with Franklin government.</p>

VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN (Continued)

CANDIDATES for VILLAGE PRESIDENT ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Village President 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 village and what actions would you, as a village official, take regarding each of them?
<p>PAMELA JANE HANSEN (Write-in) 32820 Wing Lk. Rd. Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>I am the incumbent Village President, running as a write-in candidate due to a 2016 campaign reporting issue, now resolved, that I was not able to correct in time to be included on the November ballot. I am running because we need to finish some important initiatives started under my leadership. I want to maintain Franklin's financial health and look for ways to welcome new families who are looking for the ambience and community involvement the residents have enjoyed for many years. I have lived in the village for 27 years and have been an active volunteer and an appointed or elected official. I chaired the Planning Commission, leading the development of the 2006 Master Plan. In 2016 I was elected Village President, the first woman to serve in that role. I am happy to be that person and be in a position to encourage other women to seek leadership roles on the village council and elsewhere in the village.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure residents and visitors can safely get where they want to go in the Village on foot, by bicycle - and car. 2. Economic development in the village center: Bring back essential services businesses, restore community gathering spots and maintain historic buildings. 3. A plan needs to be in place to assure residents have sufficient, quality water in all corners of the village.

VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN (Continued)

5 Candidates for VILLAGE TRUSTEE for THREE 4-year terms

<p>CANDIDATES for VILLAGE COUNCIL</p> <p>THREE 4-year terms <i>Vote for no more than THREE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Provide biographical information and explain why you are running for Village Council and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues facing your village and what actions would you, as a village official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>KATHERINE ERLICH 26745 Crestwood Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>Having grown up in Franklin, raised my children here, and served as FCA vice-president for the past 12 years, I have an excellent understanding of how Franklin works and what most Villagers want and need. As a Franklin business owner, I am learning first-hand about downtown issues, as well as those that come with owning a historic house. Being a pediatrician, I learn quickly, know the importance of asking the right questions, and am capable of understanding and explaining complex issues. Thus, my perspective is diverse and my commitment sincere.</p> <p>I am running for Council because I am disappointed with the current Council's divisive behavior in deciding the Streetscape issues. While we may disagree, it is of utmost importance to listen and learn from each other, treating all with civility and respect. I wish to celebrate the amazing and unique town we have, so it can be here for generations to come.</p>	<p>Council has abused its power by pushing its majority agenda, without concern for the law or the wants of the residents. The issue is not whether one wants sidewalks or urbanization. The primary concern is whether we follow the democratic process and allow residents a voice and a vote. When Council bypasses the voice of the people and makes major decisions based on their own agendas, the result is a disgruntled, unheard community.</p> <p>The Historic District is one of the most unique parts of Franklin and must be preserved. The current Streetscape threatens to destroy its rural authenticity.</p> <p>To best enjoy our town and each other, we need safer walkability on main roads and better destinations. I will work with the Planning Commission. If sidewalks are deemed the best option in certain locations, I will ensure that we follow our Charter and give Villagers the deciding vote. Through incentives, I hope to bring gathering places (ie. ice cream parlor, coffee shop, and market) back to Franklin.</p>
<p>FRED GALLASCH 30575 Rosemond Dr. Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>Fred Gallasch is a 26-year resident of Franklin. He has served 20 years as Trustee and 4 years as President. He supported creation of Main Street Franklin and served as its first president. With my broad experience on council and a PhD in economics, I understand and focus on budgets and future liabilities and assure that the village can meet its future liabilities. My years of experience allows me to bring knowledge of past decisions when making new decisions.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We need to update our downtown by providing safe pathways for citizens to enjoy our village. I am working with the construction companies to assure that this is done in a way to preserve our historical designation. 2. Franklin has lost several businesses. We need to develop a program to advertise and recruit new businesses. 3. I support Franklin's recent initiative to analyze our diversity and inclusiveness. I and several others are developing a strategy and approach to improve both.

VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN (Continued)

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<p>MARK HANKE 32920 Wing Lk. Rd. Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>I'm a 20 year Franklin resident with my wife and family. An engineer with 31 years in automotive manufacturing leadership. Scout leader for 12 years.</p> <p>Service to the community: I've donated hundreds of hours & thousands of dollars to the Village. For (2) winters, I donated and built an ice rink on the Village Green. In 2016, I donated a new trailer for the Franklin Scout Troop.</p> <p>In March 2020, I volunteered to drive to a 3M plant in South Dakota to increase N95 mask production. Our team helped turn the plant into a true 24/7 operation. We worked nonstop & raised production by 400k masks/day by the time we left in April. One of the most rewarding things I've done in my life. Our efforts built an additional 5 million N95 masks for Covid first responders.</p> <p>Business Leadership: I have decades of experience as a small business owner (started Farmhouse Coffee and 2 other businesses) and 31 years experience in global manufacturing. I bring critical skills to improve the business district.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop & implement a community supported sidewalk plan to allow residents access the downtown business district. If elected, I intend to work with designers, architects and engineers to develop plans giving residents the best possible options for walkability. The voices of too many residents are ignored by a small group focused on a personal, single agenda. 2. Develop & implement a community supported plan for municipal water within Franklin Village. This is needed for increased fire safety & protection, increased health for residents (especially children for fluoride treatment) and increased home value. Prior attempts to bring city water was intentionally burdened with language designed to make it cost prohibitive and intentionally stymie any progress. 3. Increase incentives, grants, funding and outreach to bring desirable businesses back into Franklin. I've started (3) successful Franklin businesses (notably Farmhouse Coffee) with the passion and skills help other entrepreneurs.

VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN (Continued)

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<p>JOSHUA LAWTON 26149 Meadow Dr. Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>I grew up in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, went to school at UNH studying Electrical Engineering. I met my wonderful wife Luz shortly after graduating in 1998 and we moved to Michigan in 2000.</p> <p>Today we live in Franklin; have three amazing children Isabella, Ian and Olivia. They attend Birmingham public schools, where my wife is very involved with many years of leadership in the PTA.</p> <p>I am running to bring change and a fresh perspective to the village council. Council must be more inclusive by answering questions raised during meetings, replying to letters to council, communicating clearly and transparently, and letting the voters decide. The council has to follow the law and get independent legal opinions.</p> <p>I have decades of real-world problem-solving experience and I have a long history of finding unique, creative solutions which balance multiple competing requirements. As a Design Manager I have developed teams, planned projects and workloads, and managed budgets.</p>	<p>Division. The council’s decision to illegally construct sidewalks without giving residents the vote required by our village charter, has pitted neighbors against each other. Two groups of people have been wronged by this; one lost the sidewalks they wanted, and the other had their rights taken away. The solution would have been to avoid this in the first place by implementing one of the two legal solutions I originally suggested. Solving the division caused by this will take time and inclusive leaders who lets voters decide.</p> <p>COVID. We will face reduced revenue sharing due to much lower gas tax revenue. The extra road bond money should be saved to counteract this or returned to the residents. Businesses have been decimated and they need leaders that understand them. New businesses need a supportive council.</p> <p>Water and Sidewalks. Residents should have the opportunity to provide input on and vote for plans to bring water and improved walkability to all residents.</p>

VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN (Continued)

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<p>MICHAEL SELTZER 27160 Scenic Dr. Franklin, MI 48025</p>	<p>I am running for what I hope to be my 4th term as your elected Franklin Trustee. With over two decades of volunteer effort in our Village first as a member and then President of our Franklin Community Association then to Village Council — I bring passion, dedication, commitment and experience to the work we do. Under my terms we have appointed 4 police chiefs, 3 Village Administrators, countless committee appointments, managed years of budget issues, approved hundreds of permits, and worked professionally and respectfully with 3 Village Presidents and numbers of Trustee colleagues.</p> <p>I am also a volunteer for Meals on Wheels for NEXT and Jewish Family Services, a board member of Temple Israel, a member of Fraternal order of Masons Lodge Birmingham 44 and Scottsdale 43, an retired from a marketing publishing company I created over 40 years ago.</p> <p>My wife and I donate our historic 1840 Franklin home for numerous charity and fundraising events and are the proud adopters of two rescue pups.</p>	<p>The future of our Village includes historic preservation which as an owner of an 1840 home, I support</p> <p>But we must also look to the future and the many new young families that have located in Franklin and thus ongoing preparation for possibilities like the consideration of water and safety pathways and updating our downtown retail and business district is of prominent importance</p> <p>Franklin is a highly enviable destination and we must continue to consider improvements and upgrades in order to keep up with changing demographics and the needs of new young families</p> <p>My goals are to continue to preserve and maintain while giving a voice to the changing needs of our growing community and to listen and represent ALL Constituents who support us and those who may disagree with change but my goal is to consider all of our very passionate and devoted Villagers</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.