

VOTER GUIDE – AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD

Tuesday, August 4, 2020
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: www.lwvoa.org E-mail: contact@lwvoa.org Phone: 248-594-6602

You may VOTE in ONLY ONE PARTY'S PRIMARY - either Democratic or Republican – for ALL partisan offices on ballot.
Note: Candidates are ordered within each office by party with Democrats preceding Republicans.

3 Candidates for TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR 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 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?
<p><i>Republican</i> LAURA MOREAU 9654 Westwood Cir. Clarkston, MI 48348</p>	<p>My family moved to Springfield in 2004 and I quickly became an active member of the community. I served as president of my Homeowners Association and volunteered with a land conservancy, our church and other community groups. After representing my neighborhood in requests to the Township Board, I was appointed to the Planning Commission.</p> <p>In 2008 I was elected Township Clerk. Over the past 12 years, I've proven my hard work and commitment and delivered on the goals and priorities that earned the support of our community. I've been committed to improving safety, protecting financial health, planning for high quality development, and preserving natural resources in Springfield Township. I'm running for Supervisor to continue this focus and commitment to the residents of Springfield.</p> <p>Prior to serving as Clerk, I worked in marketing and as a college communication instructor. I earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Walsh College and an Master of Arts in Communication from Wayne State University.</p>	<p>Commercial Development-- I have been instrumental in planning projects to improve the aesthetics and investment environment on Dixie Highway. I'll continue promoting redevelopment of our primary commercial corridor by streamlining the site plan review process to offer incentives for high quality development that incorporates the natural beauty and character of Springfield.</p> <p>Budget-- Due to the economic impacts of the recent shut down, Springfield will face budget constraints as a result of decreased State Shared Revenue. Springfield has been committed to conservative fiscal policies. We maintain a healthy fund balance and have established an Emergency Reserve Fund. Although Springfield is in a sound financial position, I'll continue to look for efficiencies, opportunities to cut expenses, and maintain the Township's focus on fiscal responsibility.</p> <p>Public Safety-- Springfield recently made significant improvements to our Fire Department. While excellent fire/rescue services and police protection will remain a priority, in the coming years I will focus on improving road safety and installing pathways for safe non-motorized transportation.</p>

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

CANDIDATES for SUPERVISOR 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 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?
<p><i>Republican</i> KEVIN SCLESKY 9919 Dixie Hwy. Clarkston, MI 48348</p>	<p>I have lived in Springfield Township most of my life, raising my three daughters: Tiffany, Chelsey and Morgan with my wife Lauren. I take tremendous pride in being a part of the community, all it has to offer and the beautiful land the township has protected and preserved for decades.</p> <p>My career in hospitality management and real estate has allowed me to develop strong leadership abilities and interpersonal skills. I have worked effectively with employees, clients, communities, vendors and other affiliates to achieve desired outcomes. Through effective communication and attentive listening, I create a collaborative environment where opinions are valued and collaboration creates an ideal result.</p> <p>As a Planning Commissioner for the Township I have gained a vast amount of knowledge over the past 5 years in all aspects of the township's operations and current issues with a strong understanding of the planning and zoning process. I serve as a member of the Township Strategic Planning Committee. I have participated and been involved in the review and decision process of many developments and property enhancements seeking to come to Springfield Township.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address the Budget from the COVID-19 Fallout. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a.) I would work with state and county officials and adjoining townships to put in place best practices. b.) Determine the budget deficit. c.) Develop a plan with the other elected township officials to balance the budget. 2. Dixie Highway Corridor Development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a.) Continue to refine the Dixie Highway overlay district plan. b.) Work with developers to promote growth within the corridor while maintaining the integrity and history of Springfield Township. 3. Develop Strategic Safety Paths within the Township <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a.) Form a safety path committee to research optimal safety path priority zones. b.) Work with progressive townships with proven safety path developments.
<p><i>Republican</i> DAVID F. SMITH 13120 Scott Rd. Davisburg, MI 48350</p>	<p>Fifth generation to serve the people of Springfield Township since 1837.</p>	<p>#1. Protecting quality of life through managed growth to maintain a rural environment.</p> <p>#2. Revitalization of down town Davisburg.</p> <p>#3. Repair and maintain downtown Davisburgs millpond Dam.</p> <p>I will achieve these goals by working with Local, County, State and Federal agencies.</p>

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

2 Candidates for TOWNSHIP CLERK for ONE 4-year term

<p>CANDIDATES for CLERK</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 Township office 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 township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> MICHAELA BISHOP 7985 Clemae Davisburg, MI 48350</p>	<p>Three generations of my family live in Springfield Township. My roots and my future are here. As your next Clerk, I will bring varied experiences in government and non-profit organizations such as the Alzheimer’s Association and Leadership Oakland. My focused studies in mental health and social work give me a unique perspective in working with the public, respecting the views of all residents. Working for non-profit organizations has taught me to be frugal and focused with a budget and innovative with processes. In my years of government experience, I have served on the staff of former Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, as well as Representative (now Senator) Tom Barrett. In addition to my time working for the Secretary and Senator Barrett, I have gained firsthand experience working elections in the following communities: Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Township, Rochester Hills, and Springfield Township. I have the endorsement of several Clerks in Oakland County.</p>	<p>My three priorities as your next Springfield Township Clerk would be the budget, our infrastructure, and development. Smaller communities are coping with the unexpected costs of COVID-19, as well as revenue shortfalls. The CARES ACT primarily helped communities over 500,000. We will need to be creative and conservative in our budget in order to build on the solid financial foundation currently in place. Infrastructure can take many forms such as roads, buildings, and equipment. I am committed to the preservation and improvement of the infrastructure of our Township. This commitment includes making sure the investment in our fire department allows them to operate in the safest most effective way possible. The third priority for me will be honoring the current Master Plan with a vision towards the future development of the Dixie Highway corridor and downtown Davisburg, while respecting the rich history and beautiful natural landscape of Springfield Township.</p>

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for <u>CLERK</u></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 Township office 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 township and what actions would you, as a township official, take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>Republican SEAN R. MILLER 13151 Andersonville Rd. Davisburg, MI 48350</p>	<p>I received a Bachelor’s Degree from Lake Superior State University and went on to graduate from Western Michigan University Law School. I have been active in the community for many years, volunteering with various organizations from charities, to community groups, and even national organizations. I currently serve as the Attorney Advisor and Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Deaf Community Advocacy Network and I also serve on the Board of Directors for Samaritan Counseling Centers. I am running for Township Clerk so that I can continue helping my neighbors and make a difference in the community that my wife and I love and call home. As Clerk, I would serve in a legislative role by proposing and voting on ordinance legislation as a member of the Township Board. I would also serve in an administrative role as custodian of Township records, minutes, and ordinances; administering elections; budget management; and other administrative responsibilities. As a licensed Attorney who has run a successful law practice, I possess the skills necessary to effectively serve my neighbors in this role.</p>	<p>We are very fortunate in Springfield Township that our leaders have been so diligent in taking care of our Township and setting our Township up for a very bright future. We do not have a tremendous amount of issues facing our Township at this time. However, that being said, I have a passion for and deep love of this community, its people, and its natural assets. As a lover of the outdoors, I pledge to preserve and protect our history and heritage, parks, nature trails, lakes, rivers, and streams - including the historic Mill Pond Dam on the Shiawassee River. Additionally, I would like to spearhead the creation of a Downtown Development Authority to revitalize Downtown Davisburg - the heart of Springfield Township - and attract new businesses to the area while still maintaining its historic charm. I will also continue the legacy of our out-going Clerk to make sure that our elections are fair, accessible, and convenient for all registered voters in Springfield Township.</p>

1 Candidate for TREASURER for ONE 4-year term

JAMIE L. DUBRE 6680 Ridgewood Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

5 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?
<p><i>Democrat</i> DONNA M. LOPEZ 6654 College Park Clarkston, MI 48346</p>	<p>I have been living in Michigan all my life. Born in Alpena in northern Michigan I attended school in that city until my graduation. Eventually I decided on a career in teaching attending Eastern Michigan University. I taught in Livonia for 9 years, managed a medical office, attended law school and ultimately, returned to teaching for Flint Community Schools for 17 years. I decided to obtain a real estate license during my teaching career which is still active.</p> <p>I feel the Trustee position should have bi partisan representation which would reflect both Democratic and Republican points of view. I believe the qualities and skills I bring to the Trustee position is a value for the opinion and interaction of all members of both the Township Board and the Community at large. My years of teaching has prepared me to understand Township policies, resolutions that will affect the Springfield residents, presentation of the yearly budget and levying of taxes. It is important as your Trustee to be accessible, transparent to the residents and strive to keep open communication either through email or personal contact to address concerns. As your Trustee I will be your bi partisan voice!</p>	<p>First, one issue I would address is the condition of roads and streets in our Township. I have noticed that several roadways are in need of attention. I would follow up with the transportation department to inquire about the determination of which streets and roads receive attention and review the budget timeline for repair. I would encourage residents who view public roads or streets in disrepair to report that to me for a follow up.</p> <p>Second, I am concerned of the posted speed limit of the roads. For example Dixie Highway, Big Lake Road, the Davisburg community to mention some areas. With the addition of more commercial and residential locations, it seems that drivers are increasing their speed, even well above the posted signs. I suggest having a traffic count to determine road usage and followed by working with the local law enforcement about how best to address the results.</p> <p>Third, I would like an update on the status of the Mill Pond Dam and the recommendation given by legal counsel. A motion was filed in January. As a Trustee representing the residents of Davisburg, I would request an current update and recommendations that would be shared with the local community.</p>
<p><i>Republican</i> MARC COOPER 10050 Andersonville Rd. Clarkston, MI 48346</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	
<p><i>Republican</i> DAVE HOPPER 9865 Kingston Ridge Clarkston, MI 48348</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

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?
<p><i>Republican</i> JASON PLISKA 10725 Clark Rd. Davisburg, MI 48350</p>	<p>I am a 1989 Graduate of Pinconning High School, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Northwood University in 1993 with a dual major BBA in Marketing and Management. Upon graduation, I worked in the automotive and IT industries for 9 years. Eventually, after realizing that my calling in life was to help others, I attended graduate School at Wayne State University, and graduated in 2004 with a MA in Counseling. I have been a practicing high school counselor since that time.</p> <p>I began serving our community several years ago as a coach in the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation youth baseball leagues. In 2015, I was appointed to the Springfield Township Planning Commission. I am currently serving my second term as a Planning Commissioner.</p> <p>I am running for Trustee because I have a strong desire to serve the residents of this special community we call home. I believe my experience as a Planning Commissioner has allowed me to become familiar with many aspects of our township. My experience as a counselor has given me a strong ability to listen, respect the opinions of others, and the importance of working together towards a common goal.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encouraging beneficial development with our community while preserving our natural resources and rural character. I believe that the Dixie Highway corridor is ripe for commercial development. While it is important to promote growth that enhances our tax base, and provides services to our residents, every measure must be taken to ensure it is done in a manner that enhances the community. The Dixie Design Standards are a big part of accomplishing this, and I'd like to see expansion of these standards north of Davisburg Road to the township border. 2. Community enhancement through connectedness and enhanced recreation opportunities. I believe that our community needs "bridges" that provide opportunities to connect with our community, and each other. I served on the township Pathways Committee responsible for planning pathways within the township. I'd like to see that through as Trustee, and also look for further ways to provide trail systems, and other means to immerse ourselves in our community. 3. Maintaining our fiscal responsibility. In these uncertain times, I will work hard to ensure that the township remains fiscally responsible without sacrificing services.
<p><i>Republican</i> DENNY VALLAD 8684 Sunset Cove Dr. Clarkston, MI 48348</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP PRIMARY (Continued)

7 Candidates for TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSIONER for SEVEN 4-year terms

E. ROGER BOWER	10925 Andersonville Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350
ANNE A. LONCAR	6026 Long Point, Davisburg, MI 48350
DIANE BAKER	5395 Taylor Ln., Clarkston, MI 48346
DENNIS G. OMELL	12596 Scott Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350
RICHARD W. PARKE	6161 Wertz, Davisburg, MI 48350
ANGELA SPICER	5620 Hillsboro Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350
JEAN A. VALLAD	8684 Sunset Cove Dr., Clarkston, MI 48348

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.