



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
DEARBORN / DEARBORN HEIGHTS**



DEARBORN VOTER GUIDE

August 8, 2017 Primary Election

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The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 as a nonpartisan political organization to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League never supports or opposes a political party or candidate. Membership in the League is open to all men and women aged 16 years or older. Funding for the printed voter guides depends upon generous civic-minded donors.

For more information, contact the Local League at lwvddh@gmail.com or (313) 278-6476, or visit the website at www.lwvddh.org.

MAYOR (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

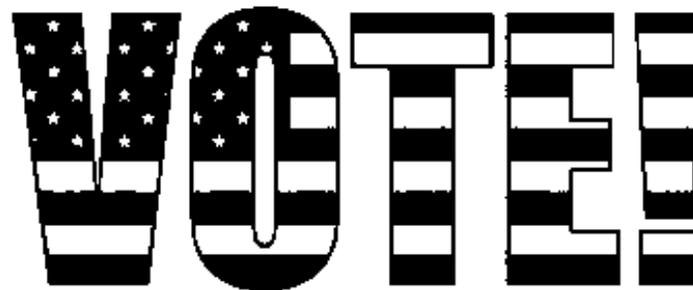
There are 5 candidates listed in alphabetical order.	Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.	What issues related to police and public safety need attention?	How would you foster community among the diverse residents of Dearborn?	Do you have an agenda concerning air quality in south Dearborn?
<p style="text-align: center;">Edward Binkley</p> <p style="text-align: center;">handyman/entrepreneur</p> <p><u>Education:</u> highschool graduate plus 6 months buss.management at henryford community collegeh</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://aol.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> civilwarman1963@aol.com</p>	<p>have no experiance but i care genuinely about the community and the safety of all residents,and keeping the museum open</p>	<p>we need tio set up the neighborhood services program throughout the city especially on the east end the crosswalk is broken on greenfield and warren it registers walk for the pedestrians to walk into on coming traffic.we have to set this up in districts patroled by police officers we have plenty in the west end so you don't see any crime. we need to patrol our par5ks and senior buildings for people using and selling drugs again more needed on the east end. hire more bi-lingual officers for communication purposes.</p>	<p>hold meetings of special interests and any ordinance changes in the community have council meetings with a arabic imterpretator present so that our muslim population understands what is also going on in the city.</p>	<p>yes try and negotiate with the companies about cutting back on the omissions that they excerise to let into the community plus make sure that the trucks go the speed limit of 35 not 50 down wyoming this is unsafe for or children walking to school.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Hakim Fakhoury</p> <p style="text-align: center;">retired</p> <p><u>Education:</u> 2 year of College at HFCC</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.voteforhakim.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> contactus@voteforhakim.com</p>	<p>My story is similar to that of thousands of my fellow Dearborn residents. I am the son of immigrants who came to this great city to provide a better life for their family. I am a product of every level of Dearborn public schools, from elementary to the community college level. My business career in Dearborn spans over 3 decades. I invested millions of dollars upgrading obsolete and derelict buildings, transforming them from eyesores to beautifully built modern structures. My projects attracted big brands to Dearborn including Panera Bread and Buffalo Wild Wings.</p>	<p>The city of Dearborn mandates that a certain number of police officers to be on the force. As it stands currently, our police force falls short of this requirement. If the city has operated with a surplus then it becomes inexcusable that our police force is understaffed as defined by the city. Also, when I was heavily involved in the West Dearborn business district I proposed bringing in Wayne County Mounted Police. These are the same officers that police districts like Greektown in Downtown Detroit and other Wayne County municipalities.</p>	<p>I have spoken at length about Dearborn's diversity. We are really a representation of what makes this country great, a melting pot of cultures. One of the main things that brings neighbors together regardless of their background, is having places where they can interact. Growing up in the City, virtually every park had after school activities for kids, and our pools and parks were immaculately maintained. In recent years the City has cut back on these services. I also support having cultural festivals that highlight the city's diversity. The Arab festival in East Dearborn needs to be brought back.</p>	<p>The South End is the first neighborhood I lived in when my family immigrated to Dearborn. It's a part of the city that holds a special place in my heart. In fact, I dedicated a post on my Facebook page that highlighted the fact that the South End was not adequately represented on City Council. I proposed creating districts so that the South End would get a seat on City Council, giving its residents a voice and an opportunity to raise their concerns. I would lobby on behalf of the residents affected by this air pollution, to the State and the Federal Government. I would also join forces with the residents.</p>

MAYOR (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

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<p style="text-align: center;">John B. O'Reilly, Jr.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mayor</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Juris Doctor degree (law degree) from the University of Detroit</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://JackOReillyforDearborn.org</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> Jack@jackoreillyfordearborn.org</p>	<p>As Mayor, I want to continue positioning our city to be successful now and for the future. I have the direct experience, the managerial skills, the extensive professional network, and the broad-based knowledge required to lead Dearborn forward. The issues the mayor deals with daily impact people's lives. They involve balancing interests and developing the strategic short- and long- term steps to achieve our city's goals, together. It's complicated work, demanding ingenuity, collaboration, and a strong moral compass. Because of this, I'm far and away the best qualified to perform at the level you need and deserve.</p>	<p>We spend about 60% of our resources on public safety, always our top priority. Our approach works. The crime rate has fallen dramatically in Dearborn since I've been Mayor. Our EMS response times continue to beat national standards. Advancements in equipment, practices, and training have raised our service capacities to new heights. Yet we're still exploring options for Fire to have more comprehensive coverage geographically in the city, and to reduce unnecessary emergency calls. We're working even harder on proactive crime prevention, neighborhood traffic enforcement, and strengthening police and community relations.</p>	<p>My motto is One Dearborn. I've continued to bring residents of all backgrounds together to promote widespread community engagement. I've convened 2 broad-based task forces to create strategic plans for current and future efforts. I've supported the effective Dearborn Area Interfaith Network, and supported Dearborn schools to help every child succeed, a goal uniting all families. I've backed BRIDGES, a multi-ethnic group of community leaders and law enforcement professionals that's become a national model, as has our own community policing program. I've stressed hiring and appointing practices that reinforce inclusion.</p>	<p>Air quality monitoring and enforcement don't fall within the City's authority. However, we've worked with the appropriate agencies and parties to ensure regular testing is done. We've earmarked \$500,000 the City received from a property tax settlement to air condition 2 area schools to improve air quality. We're finalizing plans to use the remaining funds to partner with Beaumont for a full-time nurse to address children's respiratory issues. We'll continue to push for industrial entities to implement new practices and install technology that promise to improve the situation for our residents, especially children.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Jim Parrelly</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Financial Advisor</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Henry Ford Community College University of Michigan - Dearborn School of Business</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.jimparrelly.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> jjimparrelly@gmail.com</p>	<p>My wife Denise and I have lived in Dearborn our entire lives. She attended Lowrey, I attended Woodworth, and we both graduated from Fordson High School, where she was my date to our senior prom. I have built my financial advising business here in Dearborn, and I have managed high net-worth clients for decades. I'm running for mayor because I love this community, I treasure our diversity, and it's time for change. We have had the same political class for generations. It's time to unite our city, and I know I can do it. I can provide new energy, create new strategies, and empower new voices. Now is the time.</p>	<p>We have a great police force in Dearborn. We owe our men and women in law enforcement a great deal of respect. But some issues must be addressed. First, we need to implement successful strategies to ensure our forces look more like our population. Second, we need more police working the streets and neighborhoods, especially in the East and South ends of Dearborn. Those communities have been asking for more presence to combat heightening drug use and dangerous traffic issues. Finally, we must reassess our consolidated dispatch deals with neighboring cities to ensure we are getting the best deal for our taxpayers.</p>	<p>Dearborn has always been a home to new immigrants. We must embrace these new communities and the change that comes with them. Our diversity is our strongest characteristic and our most appealing selling point. I have lived equally in the West and East ends, and I see the division. It's time to unite Dearborn. And that starts with empowering our Arab American community, listening to their voices, and including them more in government. Our city workforce simply does not represent our population. We have an abundance of talent here. It's time for these young, diverse voices installed at all levels of our city government</p>	<p>Nothing is more important than the public health of our citizens. It must be paramount in any discussion of pollution in the South End. Residents in that part of our city are revitalizing their neighborhoods and building businesses. Any plan has to start with listening to their voices. Thousands of our children are being raised adjacent to factories that pollute our air. I'm a businessman, and I understand that businesses must be allowed to succeed. At the same time, our communities must be respected and allowed to flourish. With my experience and knowledge, I can effectively bridge that gap.</p>

MAYOR (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

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<p style="text-align: center;">Thomas P. Tafelski</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Council President Pro Tem</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Graduate of Fordson High School 1988. University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, 1992.</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.Tom4Dearborn.org</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> info@Tom4Deaborn.org</p>	<p>I was elected to my fourth term on City Council, having served the past 16 years, since November 2001. I served as City Council President from 2007 to 2013, and am presently President Pro Tem. I have been a strong advocate for neighborhoods, public safety and for our business corridors. On each of these issues, I have provided more than a vote. I have provided leadership and action. I believe that Dearborn's best days are still ahead of us, but the times require electing a Mayor that can lead with energy, enthusiasm, values and with vision. I hope you'll join me in that effort.</p>	<p>While police, fire and ambulance services each have a distinct mission to protect and serve the Dearborn Public, it is essential that the services they provide are properly coordinated and administered. We must optimize available resources and provide the best possible training to further protect our people and property. We must develop even better relationships among police and fire and the community they serve. We must also include our schools, families and students in these discussions as we seek solutions that result in a safer and healthier community. I look forward to listening to the residents' concerns.</p>	<p>The best way to foster community among residents is to involve as many people as possible in the issues that matter to one another. Let's listen to and talk with each other more often, because we each have a stake in making Dearborn the best it can be. Our diversity, too of course, strengthens us; and, I am proud of it. People from around the world, 72 or more nationalities, call Dearborn home. I also believe that we have far more in common among ourselves than otherwise. I strongly feel that the best way to get along and make the most of our diversity is to simply respect one another.</p>	<p>I have long felt that an important role of any Dearborn mayor is to develop and maintain strong relationships with our governmental partners at the county, state and national levels, in such a way that allows the mayor leverage on issues such as air quality. The residents of south Dearborn must be able to depend on a mayor that advocates for them. Air quality is an especially urgent issue given its blanket effect on residents, particularly the young, the sick and the elderly. I will, as mayor, work with and closely monitor the necessary steps that must be taken by industry in creating a cleaner and safer environment.</p>



CITY CLERK (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

There are 5 candidates listed in alphabetical order.	Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.	What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?	How would you ensure that adequate resources of all kinds are fairly allocated across all Dearborn's precincts during elections?	How would you encourage more participation in our democratic society?
Ameer Yousef Abusalah	Response not received prior to deadline			
<p style="text-align: center;">Adam Alee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">International Financial Adviser/ Higher Education Consultant and Liaison</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Master's / Economics, International Finance, International Law and Relations</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://Facebook/ Adam Alee Candidate/ Dearborn</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> worldgates4u@gmail.com</p>	My name is Adam Mckey H. Alee, I was born 01/10/1975, I studied Economics, International Finance, International Law and Relations, at the University of Virginia, I have been working as a consultant/ Independent Contractor for Multi International organizations, and I worked as consultant/ Independent Contractor for Iraq at the U.S Department of State, and I worked as Higher Education Consultant and Liaison for International students and International Higher Education Institutions, I possess a strong educational and professional background and I insist my capability to be the next clerk of the city of Dearborn	!- Inadequate staff and absence of bilingual staff for the diverse residents 2- Fridays short office hours for working residents 3- Old Equipment and records keeping/ Large Fees/ Budget Mess SOLUTIONS: 1- Hire more staff with bilingual employees 2- Friday MORE office Hours to serve working residents 3- Update Equipment/ records keeping/ LESS Fees/ MORE efficient Budget	!- Hire more staff/ bilingual Staff/ Poll Workers 2- Prevent fraud 3- More efficient Budget allocation 4- Issue multi lingual ballots/ signs 5- Advertise multi lingual instructions for election 6- Put sufficient ballots and voting precincts 7- Make sure that State and City Council's laws and rules are correctly followed 8- Update equipment and record keeping technology 9- Put Handicap special stations and equipment 10- Make sure all absentee ballots are available in multi lingual for all residents and receipt of them 11- Prevent double voting and Cheating 12- More effective and efficient management and supervision	1- Make bilingual forums, meetings and orientation for all residents 2- BE A CLERK FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY 3- Publish multi lingual educational materials and instructions for all residents of the city 4- Make precincts and ballots available for all voters in the city 5- Hire more bilingual staff 6- Handicap stations, support, orientation and priority services 7- Extended office hours for working residents 8- Freedom of speech 9 - More efficient and effective communication between clerk's office and residents or customers 10- Confidential keeping of personal information of all residents of the city and customers

Voter Guides from the League of Women Voters are a unique and valuable service in our communities. VOTE411.org and the printed Voter Guides available in our libraries, city halls, and other locations are made possible by donations from civic-minded individuals and organizations and by the dedicated volunteers who give their time and talent to provide these services. Please show your appreciation by sending a check of any amount to the League of Women Voters of Dearborn-Dearborn Heights Education Fund, 120 N. Military, Dearborn 48128. Your support is needed.

CITY CLERK (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

<p>There are 5 candidates listed in alphabetical order.</p>	<p>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</p>	<p>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</p>	<p>How would you ensure that adequate resources of all kinds are fairly allocated across all Dearborn's precincts during elections?</p>	<p>How would you encourage more participation in our democratic society?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">George T. Darany</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Realtor</p> <p><u>Education:</u> University of Michigan - Dearborn Bachelor of Arts - Economics Classes in Public Administration, Accounting and Political Science Edsel Ford High School - Senior Class Treasurer</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://votedarany.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> imdearborn@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Extensive background as a community leader and activist for over 25 years including: 2011-2016 Member of MI State House of Representatives; 2007-2010 Dearborn City Council; 2000-Present: Dearborn Goodfellows, President 2009 and current Vice Pres; 2000-Present: Dearborn Rotary; Rotarian of the Year 2008, Goodfellow Paper Sale Chairman since 2002; 1999-Present: Usher Sacred Heart; 1986-2006 & 2015-Present: Dearborn Chamber of Commerce, Vice-Pres. of Executive Board 1999-2005, Impact Award 2017. I'm running for City Clerk to restore transparency and integrity back to the office, with an emphasis on customer service.</p>	<p>The number one priority of the office is to ensure that all elections are fair, accurate and allow for equal and easy participation of all registered voters. As City Clerk, I would develop new training programs for city election workers, concentrating on ways to spot voter fraud. Also training to stop individuals from influencing voters inside the precincts. New voting machines, will be introduced this year. It's imperative that election workers are knowledgeable about the changes and can concisely explain them to voters. For better accessibility to residents, I would keep the clerks office open late one night a week.</p>	<p>The clerks office needs to rethink how it allocates its resources. Because the number of voters per precinct varies greatly, resources should be allocated based on the numbers of registered voters assigned per voting location, not by the number of precincts per location. I believe this change, alone, could make our elections more efficient. The key resource at any precinct is the city election worker. As City Clerk, my job is to hire and train enough election workers to make sure residents vote as quickly as possible, votes are counted accurately, and concerns addressed fairly. I have the knowledge to make that happen</p>	<p>As a legislator for the State of Michigan, I introduced numerous bills to make it easier for residents to vote, including early voting, no-reason absentee voting, less restrictive voting for college students and more efficient and quicker voting for military personnel. As City Clerk, my goal will be to get more students interested in voting. I'll do that by visiting our k-12 schools, colleges and universities to emphasize the importance of voting. I will also stay in contact my former colleagues in the House and the Senate to encourage them to continue to write legislation that make it easier for residents to vote.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Nofila J. Haidar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Real Estate Agent</p> <p><u>Education:</u> University of Michigan Dearborn Master of Public Administration</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.nofilahaidar.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> ctenofilahaidar@gmail.com</p>	<p>I am a lifelong resident of Dearborn, and an active member of the community. I serve on PTA Council, Goodfellows, and Early Learning Coalition for Dearborn Schools. My education and experience as a businesswoman has prepared me to manage, and lead effectively. I have the ability to delegate and organize large projects to meet deadlines. Excellent customer service, problem-solving, decision-making, planning, communication, and time management are some of my strongest skills. I want to bring the City Clerk's office into the 21st century to provide transparent, efficient and professional services to the residents.</p>	<p>Most residents do not know what a City Clerk does until they need the services provided by the office. Currently, the initial call to the City Clerk's office is not answered by a human which can become frustrating. I have elaborated on the importance of timely communication many times and I want to be the clerk who implements the standard for excellent communication and customer service whether it is on election day or while providing the many services the department is responsible for. We need to bring up to date technology to better serve our constituents.</p>	<p>Using my management skills and providing proper training for all Election Day staff to ensure that all precincts have adequate human resources as well as other resources. Every precinct will have different needs based on the history of voter turnout. A study of the trends will determine the needs of every precinct. All staff will be trained to be knowledgeable of the process and to serve the voters efficiently. I will be a leader against voter suppression and intimidation which I have witnessed in recent elections.</p>	<p>Many residents are not aware of the Clerks responsibilities and duties. My goal is to re-introduce the City Clerk's office to the residents as the place to go for information. Voter education is one of my priorities. I will provide dependable, transparent, and accessible service while maintaining a high level of professionalism and accountability to all Dearborn residents. I will advocate for increasing voter participation, early voting and "no reason" absentee voting.</p>

CITY CLERK (4-year term) vote for 1 – please see 3 pages of candidate information

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<p style="text-align: center;">John Joseph Schimizzi</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NAIAS Security</p> <p><u>Education:</u> MBA in Strategic Management Davenport University 2000 BA in Management Davenport University 1998 Edsel Ford High School 1994</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.Facebook.com/JohnJosephSchimizzi</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> Schimizziforclerk@gmail.com</p>	<p>Previously worked for United Airlines at the Reservations Center in Dearborn from January 1997 to January 2016 as a Reservations Operations Representative. Managed staffing for over 600 agents, wrote training manuals, facilitated training classes and was the leader in numerous projects. I am proud to call Dearborn home. When something is wrong at home, someone needs to step up and fix it. I will take the experiences I have learned throughout life, as well as what I have learned in earning my Masters Degree in Strategic Management to the City Clerk position. We need a leader who will work with the people.</p>	<p>Technology. Technology changes every day. The City Clerk department must be aware of new and future software programs that will help Dearborn. I will continuously work with our technology team to make sure we are providing the appropriate services needed for our residents. Elections. Training classes and workshops will be conducted throughout the year for election workers. We must practice the same policies and procedures at every precinct. Everyone needs to be on the same page. Establishing a close working relationship with both the Mayor and City Council. Whenever called upon to help, I will.</p>	<p>A leader must know every aspect of not only their job, but their employee's jobs as well. As the City Clerk, I will make sure to know all the resources we have to work with from A to Z. By conducting training classes and workshops, all Election Day workers will be aware of what is expected at each precinct. The same resources we will have at one precinct, will be the same resources we have at every precinct. Consistency is the key! As the City Clerk, I will analyze where we have challenges and improve the process to make sure all resources are fairly allocated across Dearborn's precincts during elections.</p>	<p>Communication. I have been communicating to our residents that their vote is their voice and if they want their voice heard, they must vote. People talk about wanting change in politics, but the way to make change happen is by voting. I am not a person who just sits on their hands. I am a people person. I participate in meetings and functions listening to what the people want and need. I will continue to communicate to our residents that all questions will have answers. If I do not have the answer, I promise you that I will direct them to the correct person or department who will have the correct answer.</p>

Need an absentee ballot? Don't know where to vote?

Call your City Clerk!

Dearborn: (313) 943-2030
Dearborn Heights: (313) 791-3432

CITY COUNCIL (4-year term) vote for 7 – please see 8 pages of candidate information

There are 16 candidates listed in alphabetical order.	Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.	What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?	What are your budget priorities regarding the allocation of city revenues?	What priority would you give to our public libraries? Would you propose any budgetary changes to this service?
Ziad Abdulmalik	Response not received prior to deadline			
<p style="text-align: center;">Robert Abraham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheif Executive Officer</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Fordson High School: Class of 1985; Hillsdale College: Bachelor of Arts-Accounting; and Michigan CPA-Registered Status</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://Old Fashioned - No Website</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> Rabraham.cpa@gmail.com</p>	Robert A. Abraham has served his hometown as councilman since January 2002, elected to 4 terms in office and serving for almost 16 years. He wants to protect Dearborn's foundation and help mold its future. He is committed to assist in delivering first-rate public services, and believes in safeguarding the city and enhancing Dearborn's quality of life. Augmenting economic growth to increase residential property values and encourage desirable development is of utter importance to him. Councilman Abraham is a third generation life-time Dearborn resident. He graduated from Fordson High School and Hillsdale College.	The City and the City Council are facing many issues in a "post-recession" economic environment. Experience and strong leadership are needed on our City Council to guide public policy and make unbiased decisions based upon the best available information. There is no place in our local government for "politics" and "special interests." I am committed to making the difficult decisions for the best interest of the entire community; knowing that sometimes these decision will not be popular to everyone.	Public Safety! Police and Fire must remain the cornerstone of Dearborn's City Services. The highest standard of excellence must remain the top budget priority. Staffing levels for Police and Fire Departments must be continuously monitored to make sure our citizens and officers remain safe. Our Recreation activities, including pools, parks, animal shelter and the Recreation Center must be funded to sustain the standards our residence deserve. Public Works services, like snow plowing, street sweeping and road repair must also receive adequate funding to keep our infrastructure safe and the best possible condition.	The cultural arts remain a very high priority!!! For the past 16 years I have consistently supported the Library system, Historical Museum and the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center. The arts and our heritage are a significant part of Dearborn and must not be a victim of the short sighted budget cuts. I would support a new modern Library Center on the vacant property west of the Centennial Library. The current facility could be renovated to serve as a multi-use Senior Citizen Center with independent living that could include special accommodations for our Veterans. Please Vote Councilman Robert A. Abraham.
<p style="text-align: center;">Nada Al-Hanooti</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Substitute Teacher</p> <p><u>Education:</u> MA in Women's and Gender Studies BA Political Science and Journalism, with a minor in Women's and Gender Studies</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://votenada.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> alhanootinada@gmail.com</p>	I was born in Paterson, NJ, and when I was just four years old I moved to Dearborn. My father has served in the nonprofit sector for over 20 years and my mother is a full-time community volunteer. Naturally, I was inspired by my parents' efforts. I was passionate about politics since as long as I can remember, and I made a promise to myself that I would run for office one day. I have a passion for social justice and I consider myself an activist. With this campaign, I hope to bring my activism to the municipal level.	Environment-Dearborn has a consistent problem of littering and air pollution. Every resident has the right to not only breathe clean air but to wake up to a view of a pristine neighborhood. Maintaining street sweeping as well as placing public waste containers will improve our community's image, as well as improving the health of our citizens. Also, Creating a program to reduce the air emission is imperative to the health of the residents, particularly in the south end.	Budget Priorities would include more funding for parks and recreation, museums, and libraries. Unfortunately, they are only guaranteed approximately 10% of the city's budget.	As mentioned above, libraries are one of my priorities. I would increase its budget to better serve our community members.

CITY COUNCIL (4-year term) vote for 7 – please see 8 pages of candidate information

There are 16 candidates listed in alphabetical order.	Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.	What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?	What are your budget priorities regarding the allocation of city revenues?	What priority would you give to our public libraries? Would you propose any budgetary changes to this service?
<p style="text-align: center;">Fayrouz Bazzi</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ICU Nurse</p> <p><u>Education:</u> BA, University of Michigan - Dearborn; BSN, University of Detroit Mercy</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.fayrouzbazzi.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> fayruzb@hotmail.com</p>	<p>I am the mother of two boys, a healthcare professional, a business-woman and a homeowner. This community has given me everything needed to grow and prosper from childhood to my own adult and professional life as I raise a family. I care deeply about the future of Dearborn. For our city to continue to prosper we need new ideas and a bigger voice for our residents. I am reflective of many individuals who have not necessarily had representation in government. Our city government needs more people who will bring transparency and allow the voices of our community to be represented. I want to provide that.</p>	<p>Priority issues facing the city are to me as follows: Services and Beautification; Housing & Business Planning; Economic Development & Education; Health, Crime and Public Safety; Investment and Vision; Municipal Workforce. I look to improve safety services and beautification projects, increase the educational and training support for our children, enhance the business and economic environment, and improve the overall quality of life for our city's residents. I have created a comprehensive platform and offer links to policy updates on my website under "Issues" and links to my social media.</p>	<p>I deeply believe that spending for infrastructure and public services is important to keeping our city a place where residents people want to live and do business. I also believe in paying our civil employees what they deserve. My emphasis is on spending as investment to lure more business and to create a broader tax base with increased property values rather than raising tax rates. Infrastructure and planning allowing for more smart growth and development gives us a return on our investment in city spending. Further ideas and details about dealing with the budget of the city may be found on my website.</p>	<p>I deeply believe in maintaining our libraries to the extent possible but doing so in a way that creates new uses and possibly generates self-supporting revenue or cost cancellation of other expenses. With so much online usage today we have to find ways to make our libraries places where new and relevant uses. Using libraries as fee-charging meeting spaces for our community to help offset costs is one idea. Many services that city government currently needs to invest in or offers can be housed in libraries, i.e., senior services, tutorial services, employment training and services, business services, etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">David Bazzy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">President COO</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Edsel ford high school University of Michigan dearborn BA MBA Wayne State University</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> davidbazzy8@gmail.com</p>	<p>I am a 59 year resident of the city of Dearborn, as well as a business owner in the city. I have served on the city recreation commission spearheading the Ford Woods redevelopment project as well as the new ice rink. I sat on the Zoning Board of Appeals for 5 years, I was the head of the city charter commission which was passed in 2007. I have sat on a city council seat the last 7 years, leading the redevelopment of west dearborn, the revitalization of neighborhoods, and multiple projects. i am running again to continue to be a voice of the people, and finish the growth that the city has begun over the past 7 years.</p>	<p>We need to continue to focus on the neighborhoods and the development of the business both in the downtown regions but also in the neighborhoods. I have lead the charge on the downtown districts and the results are clearly visible, I will continue to lead the path to branding the downtown which will make Michigan ave. a place for families to come. In neighborhoods I will continue to focus on greater code enforcement as well as the demolition of blighted properties. I sat on rental task force and want to continue good landlord language. lastly i will continue to visit properties, parks and residents always.</p>	<p>Police and Fire take the highest priorities and always will, and as such will take the largest pool of resources,however we have multiple needs in the community from historical to recreation. For me Families and children come first which is why we need to spend more in parks, recreation, community activities, and areas that draw families and individuals to buy property in Dearborn. We also need to focus on infrastructure projects as many of the current roads are sub par, and we need to increase mobility of biking and walking throughout the entire community. Lastly we cannot ever forget our seniors and retirees.</p>	<p>On both the charter and council I have worked closely with the head of the library as well as the library commission. i supported the millage proposal for the library as well as the proposed tax increases to insure that our libraries would continue to be effective and leaders in the 21st century. I also have supported the necessary steps to curb disruptive behavior in the library, as the stalwarts of education must be maintained. The council has some budgetary flexibly on additional tax dollars which can be levied if needed, and i believe we must review this in communication with the director to use as needed.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Erin Byrnes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lead, Democratic Engagement and America Reads at the University of Michigan</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Master of Science in Education, City University of New York; Bachelor of Arts in Women's & Gender Studies, UM-Dearborn; High School Diploma, St. Alphonsus.</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.erinfordearborn.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> erinfordearborn@gmail.com</p>	<p>I was born and raised in Dearborn, and am engaged in neighborhood development as the Chair of the City Beautiful Commission. In 2015, I completed the Michigan Political Leadership Program with participants across the state from various political backgrounds. My work as an educator has given me the tools to assess and respond to community needs in a way that enhances quality of life, and I am committed to representing the needs of all Dearborn residents. I am running for City Council to serve as a voice for equality and progress, and to ensure that our budget reflects our community's values and priorities.</p>	<p>Effective communication between city leadership and business owners in our downtown districts is a pressing issue, and one that requires a shared understanding of expectations. Ensuring safety, and focusing on businesses being good neighbors are both key. As a member of our Downtown Promotions Committee, I am working with residents and business owners to plan events and create a sense of community in our downtown districts. Meeting the needs of residents at all stages of their lives is a priority. I will focus on housing, accessibility, and transportation that allows everyone to fully engage in our community.</p>	<p>Allocating funds for the staffing and training of our police officers and firefighters is a top priority. Attracting and retaining highly-skilled, caring first responders will make our community stronger and safer. City inspectors are needed to monitor residential and commercial properties. This, along with maintenance of parks and pools, is essential to maintaining high standards for our neighborhoods. Investing in green technology such as solar panels, expanding the recycling program in our schools and monitoring air quality, particularly in the south end, will make for a sustainable, healthy city.</p>	<p>As an avid patron of our libraries, I will prioritize funding for the maintenance, staffing and expansion of our libraries' collections. Libraries are a cornerstone of any vibrant community, and Dearborn's libraries provide key services to residents of all ages. Additional funds for programs that encourage families to create literacy-friendly homes, and that allow staff to focus on multiple types of literacy including media and financial literacy would be beneficial. As a Council member, and former teacher, I will work with library staff to explore creative ways to bring access to books to every corner of our city.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Susan Dabaja</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Attorney, Council President-City of Dearborn</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Edsel Ford High School B.S. University of Michigan-Dearborn J.D. University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Class Rank #1, magna cum laude</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://susandabaja.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> dabajafordearborn@gmail.com</p>	<p>I am a wife, mother of 3 children and active volunteer, accomplishing my educational goals while raising my family. As a lifelong resident, I spent my entire legal and public service career in Dearborn. In addition to my robust legal experience, I was elected Council President in 2013. I am a proven leader with sound judgment, making difficult, but fair and thorough decisions. I will use my legislative experience and firsthand city knowledge. I have an unbiased record, ensuring that government works for its citizens. I am running because I'm qualified, prepared and I have a steadfast commitment to serve Dearborn.</p>	<p>Public safety, neighborhood services, and economic development have been priority issues. I will continue to support legislation/resolutions that maintain our standard for public safety, ensuring proper funding and training for police/fire. As Council President, I have been a strong advocate for increasing funding for city inspectors to maintain the level of services that Dearborn residents expect. During my tenure, Council eliminated paid parking serving as a catalyst for the economic boom happening today. I will continue to support these issues, while focusing on improving connectivity between all parts of our city.</p>	<p>Our commitment to public safety, neighborhood services, and recreation is what has set Dearborn apart. While serving on Council, I have continually been cognizant of how and where we spend our tax dollars, always supporting resolutions that provide a safe, clean and enjoyable quality of life for Dearborn residents. I am also conscious of my fiduciary responsibility to keep a balanced budget and to spend taxpayer dollars wisely. I am always informed and prepared, continuously taking into account the needs and concerns shared by my constituents. I will continue to listen to residents to help guide me in my decisions.</p>	<p>Our public libraries have been a staple in Dearborn, offering free educational resources to our students and residents, bridging the gap for people of all backgrounds. Libraries are often the only place where people can have access to internet, computer skills training and literacy, which are essential in today's world. Our libraries attract new residents to Dearborn. I have supported a library millage to continue our library services, ensuring that they have a balanced budget to continue its services. Our libraries' model of shared services and databases allows them to serve many residents with fewer resources.</p>

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<p align="center">Sharon Dulmage</p> <p align="center">Registered Nurse, working for PACE which is a program of all inclusive care for the elderly and I also work hospice for Great Lakes Caring Hospice on a contingent basis</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Attended Henry Ford College for nursing and Detroit College of Business and Central Michigan University for business administration.</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://sharondulmage.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> sdulmage@yahoo.com</p>	<p>I have been a Dearborn resident for over 50 years. I have been active in many clubs, service organizations and have served as Trustee of Henry Ford College and Dearborn Schools for 22 years. I am a nurse and work with senior citizens and I also work hospice. I want to continue to SERVE our community and know that I can make a difference because I will listen to you and work for you just as I have in the past. I am honest, open, and an independent thinker. I am not afraid to make decisions and am not swayed by those in power.</p>	<p>Priority issues include getting a handle on rental properties to ensure they meet the standards we are use to in out city and that home building and construction projects are finished within a specified time. Public safety is always a priority and along with strong neighborhoods make Dearborn a desirable place to live. I would ensure that ordinances are consistently enforced and resources are available to support those efforts. I believe that a council member should "Inspect what you expect". I would work with business to attract them to Dearborn, help them open a business and work to keep them here.</p>	<p>Fiscal responsibility is always a priority. As I have in the past I promise to be a good steward of your tax dollar. I have experience with public funding from local, state and federal sources. There are always ways to tighten the belt and continue to improve services. It takes creativity and effort to so do. Efficiency of operation is expected if the outcome is to provide good service while working within a budget. Ongoing review of departments and operations is key to efficiency and improving operations. I would like to develop a process for identifying seniors in need of services and improve programs for teens.</p>	<p>I will always support out libraries. I understand that how we use libraries has changed because of technology but nothing will ever take the place of holding a book. Funding the library system is a priority and while there are ways for a library to generate some funds through charges and fnes it is imperative that they be funded adequately and that they remain open to for people to enjoy, .</p>



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<p style="text-align: center;">Regan Ford</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Small business owner</p> <p><u>Education:</u> From an early age, Regan was an entrepreneur. After graduating high school in 1998, Regan left Monroe County Community College after just one year to focus full time on growing his business.</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://fordearborn.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> r.ford@vividclean.com</p>	<p>Hi I'm Regan Ford. I'm a homeowner and small business owner. My wife and I are proud parents of two kids in Dearborn Public Schools. My favorite part of serving our community is the people I meet. Whether it's leading a neighborhood project, awarding youth Rotary scholarships, or getting to know other business owners through the Dearborn Chamber, I am always meeting people and learning ways to make our city better. It's time for change in city hall and for leaders who will stand up for us. We need leaders who listen, work hard and do what they say they will. It's a job I'm prepared for and it's why I'm running.</p>	<p>As your next councilman I will work to protect our neighborhoods, revive downtown and cut wasteful spending. To protect our neighborhoods we need to hold problem rental homes accountable, put more police in our neighborhoods and rebuild our swimming pools. Reviving downtown means attracting more unique small businesses, enhancing greenspaces and rebuilding our city's image. We Dearbornites pay a lot of taxes, more than 99% of all other cities in Michigan. On Council I will work to make sure both city hall and our tax dollars are working for us.</p>	<p>Since 2008 our property taxes have shot up 59%. We now have one of the highest tax rates in the state and government spending is at all time highs. City projects are plagued with overruns while resident needs are put on the back burner. And no matter how many pools are closed, services are cut and staffing reduced, city hall always finds room in the budget for salary increases for the Mayor. My priority on council will be to get spending under control and deliver taxpayers more bang for our buck. I support investing in neighborhood policing, better services and key infrastructure like our pools and roads.</p>	<p>As a parent and homeowner I believe our libraries are important. Like our pools, our libraries should be viewed as a valuable public service. Libraries are fundamental to the integrity of our neighborhoods and resident quality of life. In 2011 city hall asked us to approve a new library tax, as well as a huge millage increase. We approved. Since then, city hall closed Snow Branch library, raised the library tax 50% and gave the library director a raise. This is a total lack of accountability. As your councilman I will take a hard look at the library budget and make our tax dollars work for us.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sean Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Director of Non Profit</p> <p><u>Education:</u> University of Houston - Hospitality Management</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://sean4dearborn</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> mseangreen1969@gmail.com</p>	<p>I served as Commander of the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council over the past two years where I worked hand in hand with the city in many ways. I also assisted in design and construction oversight for the new Veterans Park and War Memorial that stands proudly in front of Henry Ford Centennial Library. For all these events I addressed audiences passionately about the city that I loves. As a result of his experiences on the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council, I gained valuable insight into Dearborn's local government and its day to day operation. I have also served as Housing Commissioner for the past 3 years.</p>	<p>We have a lack of institutional control. What I mean is that we have a system of government that is supposed to be ran by people that listen to the people. We, however, have lost that. I want to be the voice of the people. I want to ensure they are heard by the city and replied back to. I also want to ensure that our seniors are properly taken care of. Lastly, I want to ensure that we are proactive not reactive when it comes to ensuring that our police and fire departments are staffed and equipped well.</p>	<p>Response not received prior to deadline</p>	<p>Our Libraries are fantastic and I see that they do not lack in budgetary concerns. The one concern that we need to address with our libraries is a marketing plan. We have great libraries but we do not market them in a. Dry small market, i.e. Facebook.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Rifaat Hacham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Business Consultant</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Associates Degree in Business Business Degree -BBA MBA - Candidate</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> mikehacham@yahoo.com</p>	<p>I was born and raised in the city of Dearborn on September 15, 1993, and attended k-12 through Dearborn public schools. I attended Oakman Elementary, Unis middle school and while at Fordson high school I was dual enrolled at Henry Ford College. After Henry Ford College I went on to attend the University of Michigan-dearborn. Since I was 16 I have started a few small business and two are based here in Dearborn. I am running for city council because I believe I can bring leadership, businesses, and technology to take Dearborn to the next level and improve many aspects of our city government to serve its citizens.</p>	<p>The priority issues facing Dearborn is public safety, parks and recreation, senior citizen services, property taxes, city finances and budget, and employment for the city of Dearborn citizens and city infrastructure(roads, water, sewer, city services). all of these issues need to be looked at with the citizens of Dearborn in mind and audit each department that has a hand in any of these issues to understand what is going on. When we then understand what is in the way of improving any of the things listed then we can take appropriate action from funding to reorganizing any of department that may need it.</p>	<p>Before allocating any funds anywhere, we need a complete audit of the city departments and finances and anywhere city funds are used and spent.</p>	<p>I will give the libraries the same top priority as any other major concern in this city and a part of my city council pay will be donated to our public libraries. For the city council team to understand what our libraries need we need to sit with the council as a team and mayor and library officials staff and residents to understand what is needed and set up special funding for or Dearborn libraries and increase paid memberships.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ramez Haidar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Electrical Engineer / Commander with the Wayne county sheriff reserves</p> <p><u>Education:</u> BS Electrical Engineering - WSU MS Electrical Engineering - WSU PROT - Police Rserve Officer Training - WCCC</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://zackfordearborn.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> ramezhaidar@yahoo.com</p>	<p>I am running for your Dearborn City Council to preserve our city's rich history and secure our future. I will be accessible and committed to continuing to keep our city wonderful. I have raised my children here and care deeply about keeping the quality of life good for all of our Dearborn citizens. I feel my integrity and diversity make me a good choice to serve on your council.</p>	<p>Police; It is a priority to make sure our city has enough police and fire to serve and protect our residents and visitors. Corruption; We need to hire quality individuals, hold officials & employees accountable & ensure integrity is #1. Property Taxes; City council should review property tax charges in comparison to other cities and ensure that residents are getting the quality services they deserve as a result of the property taxes being paid. Substance Abuse; I am committed to providing support for substance abuse prevention and intervention programs. Rental Properties; must be up to code</p>	<p>Police, Fire and First Responders. - Senior Citizens quality of life and resources. - Improve city image and recreations parks. - Roads, Sewer lines and water quality.</p>	<p>Yes, our libraries need to be updated using new technology and make it attractive for people to use and join.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Leslie Herrick</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Public Relations</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Wayne State University, Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, Public Relations/Journalism. Henry Ford College, Honors Program, Associate in Arts, Magna Cum Laude. Graduate of Dearborn Public Schools.</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.LeslieHerrickForDearborn.com/leslieh</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> leslieherrickindearborn@gmail.com</p>	<p>My leadership skills are proven through my work as an award winning public relations professional, project manager for the Dearborn Community Fund, president of the Ford Homes Historic District, and my unparalleled professionalism representing the City of Dearborn in the Dept. of Public Information. I've also served on the boards of several organizations which includes my celebrated work for the Dearborn Education Foundation in addition to my raising over \$100,000 each year for the Homecoming Festival. As a lifelong Dearborn resident I want to put my experience to work on our city's behalf on City Council.</p>	<p>Maintaining first class fire and police services are most important but are currently exceeding standards. Therefore, business and community development, neighborhoods, and family oriented cultural activities require the most immediate enhancement and investment in the short term to make our city appealing.</p>	<p>My budget priorities include excellent police and fire services, business and community development programs that draw businesses into our downtown districts, a city tax structure that favors home owners and ensuring our arts and cultural activities continue to attract newcomers to our great city.</p>	<p>Thankfully our Library receives funds from a dedicated millage, but we must continue to support our Library through the city's general fund as well. Libraries play a critical role as a central gathering point for residents to exchange news & information & build relationships, in addition to facilitating research and study. Our Library provides valuable programs for patrons of all ages & walks of life, from toddlers to seniors, students to veterans, job seekers to retirees. I applaud our Library for consistently finding new ways to engage residents and utilize technology to our diverse, changing needs.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Brian O'Donnell</p> <p style="text-align: center;">District Sales Manager- Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology</p> <p><u>Education:</u> BS- Biology Madonna University MBA- Baker College</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://odonnell4dearborn.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> brian-odonnell@Hotmail.com</p>	<p>I attended Divine Child high schools in Dearborn. After college, I purchased my first home in Dearborn and after getting married, my wife Julia and I moved into the Dearborn Hills subdivision. We have a son, a daughter, and I have three sisters; all of whom reside in Dearborn and are married with children. Having served two terms on council has been both a privilege and an awesome responsibility. In the recent past, we have seen some tough times and had to make some very tough decisions. I am running to continue the positive transformation currently happening, and aid in the growth based on sound decision making.</p>	<p>The top priority to me are the neighborhoods. This priority is key to preserve the character and integrity of the Dearborn we all know and love. When an average citizen is asked "Why do you live in Dearborn", the answers can be varied, but usually include the phrase "I love my neighborhood". I have fought hard and will continue to fight for adequate field inspector staffing, and for fair and consistent implementation of the rules and ordinances for everyone. The business districts have seen quite a revitalization with more on the way, but we need to protect the neighborhoods to continue our positive trend and growth.</p>	<p>Public safety has been and will continue to be a top priority for me. I am happy to see the city invest in pools and other recreational activities and is taking steps to ensure future generations will have the same opportunities in the city. We are investing strategically to ensure the city operates as efficient and as effective as possible. The current council has taken many steps to maximize our return on investment, and ensure we are looking at ways to cut where we can, and invest where we should. We have recently added more monies to the road fund, as balancing budget priorities is a main focus of the council.</p>	<p>The entire library department and library commission have done an outstanding job of balancing both the financial constraints, as well as the changing nature of library services required in the community. We as a council have consistently looked at the data and feel the number and services offered are currently in line with need. It has been through items such as creative partnerships, grants, on-line and digital resources that have led to great services. The library buildings will need some updates (outlets etc.) and I am in support of investing in them. I would not propose any decreasing of funds to this service.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Kenneth Paris</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Corporate Security/ Retired Police</p> <p><u>Education:</u> Henry Ford Community College, EMU School of Police Staff and Command, FBI National Associates Executive Leadership Training</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://www.paris4council.com/</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> ltkp193@gmail.com</p>	<p>I am a Dearborn resident of over 50 years and married with two children and two grandchildren. I served 40 years (including command positions) with Dearborn Police and UM-Dearborn Public Safety. I am the current Chair of the Dearborn Traffic Commission. I will bring a needed law enforcement perspective to address challenges facing our city. I understand those challenges and the needs of keeping public safety staffed, equipped and trained to protect residents and property. I am prepared to work hard on these and other challenges.</p>	<p>1. Infrastructure: Repair our roads and infrastructure. Pressure the state and county to do the same. Over 58% of our 270 miles of our roads are in very poor to fair condition. 2. Development: Promote development by attracting and facilitating those wishing to invest in our city instead of hindering their efforts. 3. Traffic/Ordinance Enforcement: Enforce our traffic and city ordinances to make our community safer. 4. Fiscal Responsibility: Fiscal responsibility includes budgeting and monitoring our agreements and shared services with Melvindale and other communities.</p>	<p>Public Safety is always a top priority. Increased business development, trends and calls for services will determine staffing levels and future needs. Our needs today may not be the same in the future. Prudent priority-based budget forecasting should guide our long-range planning and decision-making. We need flexibility to adapt to priorities for our current and future needs. Neighborhood and business development, CSO completion, infrastructure needs and employee post-retirement legacy costs are priorities that need to be addressed. Another Fire Station may be needed in SW Dearborn for better response times.</p>	<p>Libraries are important community resources, but sadly may not be a significant funding priority. The 2016 Citizens Survey states top funding priorities are: Police, Fire, Ambulance, Residential street maintenance, City parks, Snow removal, Trash pick-up, Residential code enforcement, Library services and Water and sewer work. Even with a 1.78 mill tax levy, our libraries need to find opportunities to develop additional cost savings and create revenue. There may be opportunities with Ford, businesses and organizations to explore revenue sources such as renting, leasing and utilizing Library spaces and materials.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Michael Sareini</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Salesman/Attorney</p> <p><u>Education:</u> 1990-Fordson High School, 1992-Associates Degree Henry Ford Community College, 2009-Bachelor of Arts - University of Michigan Dearborn, 2012-Juris Doctor -Thomas M. Cooley Law School</p> <p><u>Campaign website:</u> http://councilmansareini.com</p> <p><u>Campaign email:</u> ctemikesareini@gmail.com</p>	<p>I am a proud husband & dad of 5 children. I received a degree in criminal justice from HFCC & continued my education at University of Michigan-Dearborn and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. I am a licensed attorney and have been a salesman at Ford since 1995. The highlight of my career has been serving on the Council for the last 4 years. I believe my sales experience along with my legal education has allowed me to lead changes to several policies that have resulted in thousands in taxpayer dollars saved. I am seeking reelection because I believe I have made a difference and have been a needed voice on the council.</p>	<p>With the uncertainty of State revenue sharing and nearly 69 cents of every dollar allocated to public safety, we are challenged with finding a way to do more with less. Our main objective is properly budget and to ensure that our tax dollars are not wasted. It is a priority to find ways to tackle the tough issues and ensure that we are getting the most out of every tax dollar. I propose the council get independent accounting advice throughout the budget process in order to get a fresh perspective and would advocate for more independent review of city services to ensure that we are as efficient as possible.</p>	<p>With only 31 cents out of every dollar remaining, our libraries having an independent millage and stable revenue, as well as our recreation department running at an optimal efficiency, we need to improve our infrastructure such as roads, clean our streets, and beautify our business districts. As our city continues to attract new businesses, I will advocate for more mixed-use housing developments to draw more residents to Dearborn. I will continue to advocate for the safety of our residents by providing funding to create a downtown district police detail to ensure the safety of our patrons.</p>	<p>Over the last three years, our libraries have yielded a significant increase in revenue. As a council, we have increased the millage as well as the voters overwhelmingly approved an independent millage for the library. With this secure funding in place, the libraries are now in a stable position and we can turn our attention to providing more innovative services, updating computer systems, and flexing hours to accommodate our resident demands. I would not propose any budgetary changes to the libraries as I believe this is an essential service that must be provided in any great community.</p>



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