

Mary L. McDonell
3540 Burwood Lane
Highland, MI 48357

Dear fellow resident:

On the November ballot you have a choice to make for Supervisor of our Township. I have enjoyed working with a wide variety of board members in my 16 years as Clerk, and I have tried to avoid endorsing candidates or voicing my opinions on races. In this case, however, I am endorsing **Kevin Curtis** for Highland Township Supervisor and hope that the change in leadership will correct our current path towards higher taxes and out of control spending.

After serving with the current supervisor, Rick Hamill, for the last four years, I feel a responsibility to share some of my observations/experiences/opinions/issues with you:

- Poor money management and planning that resulted in over \$850,000 of budget amendments in 2015 alone.
- His suggestion that the Township turn off neighborhood streetlights and form special assessment districts for the neighborhoods that want them turned back on while taxpayer money pays for new streetlights in the DDA area.
- His failure to adhere to Township purchasing policies that resulted in several questionable purchases including a problem-plagued phone system purchased through an acquaintance of his for over \$20,000 without using the required bidding system.
- The dissolving of a 25 year partnership with neighboring communities for a transportation program which resulted in a substantial increase in costs to everyone involved.
- The purchase of a 22.64 acre parcel of land for a septic field for properties in the DDA (Downtown Development Authority) area without first obtaining an appraisal on the property. The house on the property sits vacant and the property has been taken off the tax rolls.
- The spending of over \$8,000 on a park plan for property the Township does not own (the old Middle School property where he now wants to locate a septic field for the DDA).
- His request to support a tax increase to pay for more parks.
- His need to control everyone and everything in the Township as evidenced by his constant monitoring of cameras and Board member phone records.
- Poor personnel management that resulted in unnecessary increases in personnel expenses.
- His single-minded focus on the DDA where he owns several properties. (He has often stated that the only reason he ran for Supervisor was that the prior Supervisor, Triscia Pilchowski, would not appoint him to the DDA).
- The use of his position on the Board to criticize, demean, manipulate, bully and ostracize fellow Board members, adjoining communities and other community leaders that don't go along with his "vision".

After Kevin attended the meeting Rick held to promote his proposal for the School District's Middle School property, he contacted me with his concerns. In the short time I've known Kevin, I have found him to be an honest, hard working, diplomatic, fair, family-oriented man who I feel will handle the Supervisor position for the good of the entire community. Kevin has been a resident of Highland for 35 years and has run a successful business for over 28 years. He is a trustee and active member of his church and has coached his daughters through the community softball programs. If you choose to vote for Kevin, you must fill in the oval next to his name....even if you vote straight-party.

If you would like an opportunity to meet Kevin, a Q & A for Candidates is being held on Monday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center of Highland United Methodist Church, 680 West Livingston Road. It will be moderated by Phil Allmen, Editor of the Milford Times, and it is open to the public. If you would like further information on any of the items listed above, please don't hesitate to call me (home phone: 248-887-6061).

Sincerely,



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Dear Fellow Resident:

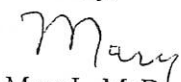
On the November ballot you have a choice to make for Supervisor of our Township. In my 16 years as Clerk, I have enjoyed working with a wide variety of board members and have tried to avoid endorsing candidates. In this case, however, I am endorsing **Kevin Curtis** for Highland Township Supervisor and hope that the change in leadership will correct our current path towards higher taxes and bring respectability back to the Board. I am supporting Kevin because I want Highland to have a supervisor who:

- Won't use the position to criticize, demean, manipulate, bully and ostracize fellow Board members, adjoining communities and other community leaders that don't go along with his "vision".
- Won't be a puppet master coercing other board members to vote the way he wants and attacking them when don't.
- Won't request support for a tax increase to pay for more parks when we already have 6,330 acres of park land in the Township (that's over 29% of the approximate 21,664 acres of land in Highland).
- Won't attempt to control everyone and everything in the Township by monitoring cameras and Board members phone calls.
- Won't push a personal agenda.
- Won't turn off neighborhood streetlights and form special assessment districts for the neighborhoods that want them turned back on while taxpayer money pays for new streetlights in the DDA area.
- Will manage the Township's resources to avoid the need for excessive budget amendments (We had over \$850,000 of budget amendments in 2015 alone. The \$850,000 was in addition to the \$98,004 taken out of Fund Balance (savings) to cover the \$2,470,329 in proposed expenses for 2015.)
- Will follow established board policies and procedures that are in place to ensure honesty, integrity and fairness in all Township affairs, especially for purchases and contracts.
- Will let the employees of the Township do the job they were hired to do without interfering and manipulating.
- Will value the opinions of his fellow Board members and the citizens of the Township.
- Will support the DDA, but not at the expense of the rest of the Township.
- Will encourage dialog and independent thinking on the Township Boards and Commissions and value the opinion of others.
- Will support intergovernmental agreements with our neighboring communities to save resources.

After Kevin attended a meeting held to promote a park proposal for the School District's Middle School property, he contacted me with his concerns. In the short time I've known Kevin, I have found him to be an honest, hard working, diplomatic, fair, family-oriented man who I feel will handle the Supervisor position for the good of the entire Township. He is a trustee and active member of his church and has coached his daughters through the community softball programs. Kevin has been a resident of Highland for 35 years and has run a successful local business for over 28 years. If you choose to vote for Kevin, you must fill in the oval next to his name....even if you vote straight-party.

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