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HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Jim Martin - Mayor

Regular water testing on local lakes:

Our lakes are an important asset to Havelock Belmont Methuen. Over the past two months, I have attended 5 AGM's of the 8 Lakes involved with the Havelock Belmont Methuen Lake Association. The Environmental Committees of the individual lakes do some testing and have said their lakes are in good shape. Some have commented that invasive weeds and zebra mussels are still a problem and are taking over some of the bays in our lakes. We also have the Peterborough Health Unit testing some of our beaches regularly and the Township office distributes and collects water bottles for testing the drinking water. We have been asked about installing boat wash stations at some of our boat launches to prevent the transportation of invasive species from lake to lake. I have always worked with any groups that work to keep our lakes healthy and clean. We have to keep on top of any threats to our water systems. I applaud the volunteers who are doing their part.

Septic Reinspection Program

Septic Inspection has been around for a few of terms of council now and it has been hard to get this program implemented. This past term was the closest we had come to a mandatory inspection for waterfront properties at the request of Havelock Belmont Methuen Lake Association members. After several joint meetings with the HBMLA, the Health Unit and HBM Council, the Health Unit came back with a cost of \$350.00 per cottage. When this was brought back to the HBMLA members, it was decided that this was too costly for them. We are currently in discussion with North Kawartha Council with regards to their Septic Inspection Program to see how it is working and I have spoken to many ratepayers about this issue as well. Many don't like the costs of the program and feel there has to be a simpler and more cost effective way of doing these tests and a way of protecting the residents who look after their systems. When discussing this issue several years ago, I asked why septic inspection wasn't a part of a home inspection when property changes hands or is sold. I feel this would have taken care of a huge number of septic inspections already over the years. FOCA has been involved in several studies around septic inspection as well and has put out some educational presentations this year that could be shared more with our ratepayers. I feel that if we can better inform property owners on their septic's, how they work and what to look for before implementing a full inspection, they will be more prepared on what could lay ahead.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Plans to target tax increases at or near the level of inflation and Setting a fixed review period for Municipal budget setting to allow citizen participation:

We as a council have always tried to work the budget around the rate of inflation as have most of the councils I have been involved with. The question with regards to setting a fixed review period for municipal budget setting to allow for more citizen participation, ties in to the next question as well. I like to have the budget deliberation dates published or set so ratepayers can be involved, see how the process works and what goes into our decisions. The budget is one of the most important jobs council has every year. I am a big believer of transparency by letting residents see how hard we work to set the budget. Something I would like to see added to our council meetings for the upcoming term of council is video streaming. It would create a more open process for HBM ratepayers to see our meetings and witness the work we do on everything that crosses the council table, including the budget.

Working productively with other levels of government (Peterborough County, Province of Ontario, Government of Canada) to support HBM priorities:

Working productively with all levels of government is a big part of being on council, especially with the Mayors position. During Mayor Gerow's illness over the past several months, I took on the Mayoral responsibility while he was recovering. With all the changes in Municipal requirements that are being implemented by other governments daily, I was pleased to be able to step in and lead the council through any challenges we faced and would look forward to continuing the opportunity to lead HBM through any future challenges.

Implementing a renewed/updated Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw:

We did our last Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw in 2012. Since then, unfortunately, it has been held up at the Ontario Municipal Board when challenged from a resident of North Kawartha. HBM will have to go through the process of renewal in the next term of council. The County is renewing their Official Plan as we speak and we have been watching the process they have and assessing if it would be beneficial working under their Plan, as most municipalities in Peterborough County have. We have many areas that are important to HBM's identity and need to be recognized and we have to see if they can be implemented into the County Plan to make it work.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Andy Sharpe - Mayor

As an introduction I would like to share with you some of my vast experience that has brought me to this point to be your next Mayor.

-I have 15 years experience on Township council.

-8 years as deputy Mayor (2 terms)

-15 years experience on Planning advisory / severance committee. Chaired for 8 years (main work for this committee was on our lakes and waterway planning)

-8 years Peterborough County Land Division Committee. (reviewed policy and made recommendations on planning , severances. Many applications were waterfront and had often environmental areas to preserve and protect)

-8 years as the Peterborough County Warden appointee to the Peterborough Public health. The board developed and implements many programs as it relates to our environment. Some programs that relate to Waterfront: Septic Permits, Beach water quality testing, drinking water testing, West Nile program.

-4 Years as a Provincial Appointee to Peterborough Public Health. I chaired the 13 member board for 2 years consecutively. As Chair I started and completed a strategic direction of the board to consolidate and relocate the entire organization of 125 staff to one facility. This strategic plan item had been on a list for decades. The coordination to get all levels of government to agree on a 10 million dollar project was difficult task and I did not give in. The project was approved selling off existing properties, relocating 125 staff to an energy efficient building that would suit the needs of the organization for 25 plus years, and saving substantial accommodation dollars in the future years.

As well during my time as chair developed a Septic Reinspection program to be offered in Peterborough County to the Townships. This program is a cost recovery program for the fees that would be charged with no profits to Peterborough Public Health. Several Townships are using the program.

Province just renewed their Appointment for a further 4 years.

I thought I would share a shortlist of my accomplishments and as relates to our Waterfront interests in HBM. There is much more committee work and volunteering that I would be pleased to share anytime with you.

I am pleased to provided to HBMLA, indicating how I Andy Sharpe as Mayor think HBMLA can help local Council in the upcoming term, and my perspectives and plans related to:

Regular water testing on local lakes

Water testing has historically been done by some lake associations. I would like the testing to be planned and consistent for all our lakes. This could be a project

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

funded by HBM and developed in consultation with HBMLA as a partner. The water testing should be included in the planning for septic reinspection.

Septic reinspection program

Septic reinspection is part of the building code and gives the authority for a Township to implement a program. In the past 4 years the HBM Council has not moved forward with any program. Reinspection must be implemented, and details will have to be planned through committee on how to move forward early in the new term. Presently, in areas where programs have been introduced (i.e. North Kawartha Township, Township Kawartha Lakes and information from Peterborough Public Health), the approximate number of septic systems needing work or replacement due to a class 3 inspection are 5%. What better way to look after our lakes and water quality than repair bad systems! HBMLA and individual Lake Association can partner in a plan for reinspection for the operation of septic and the Education planning.

Plans to target tax increases at or near the level of inflation

Changes need to be implemented to the budget process to include longer range planning rather than the present 1-year cycle. This planning should be done with each department and would provide time for Council to review department needs before the actual budget is put together for yearly budget approval. In the last four years of HBM Council and Peterborough County Council a combined tax increase of over 20% was approved. This is an unsustainable increase and we will do better with better and consistent planning and community input. Future growth and the ever changing assessments will continue to contribute taxes to the municipality. Some planning and projections are needed to clarify what the true yearly tax requirement is.

Setting a fixed review period for municipal budget setting to allow for citizen participation

Providing better understanding and clarity of budget for the public is very important as well as how council could communicate the drafts. As Mayor I will propose 4 budget meetings for public comment and council direction on the drafts. The goal will be to have an approved budget late fall timeframe for the following year. A new format for the Township website with the drafts could be part of the solution for better budget information communications.

Working productively with other levels of government (Peterborough County, Province of Ontario, Government of Canada) to support HBM priorities

I have 15 years of municipal experience and 8 years of Peterborough County Council experience. In addition, 4 years appointed by the Province of Ontario to Peterborough Public Health and chair of the board for 2 years. My background has brought me in contact with leaders at all levels of Government, valuable for acquiring approvals and funding for projects.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

HBM has always made it a priority to be ready for any type of municipal grant. Grants will continue as a priority by Council.

As mayor I will propose that Council approve hiring a grant writer/researcher for the township. The funding for salary would be paid as part of the grants approved. There are so many opportunities for community project funds that are available. The position would also be looking and supporting community organization in exploring opportunities.

Implementing a renewed/updated Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw

A new 'plan' for the Official Plan and bylaws must happen as they are the guiding documents for the entire township. The present documents include several old appeals that are not resolved and documents that are outdated in some areas. These are not finalized and approved.

Solutions to wetland mapping/schedules and including specific Lake Plans are just 2 things that are needed and should be included in the plan. The direction of our township depends on updated approved documents. The HBM Official Plan is of high priority to me as Mayor.

A community collaborative working relationship with HBM Council is my goal. I will implement new committees which will include volunteers from special interest groups and representatives from all areas of our Township .We will work together on our priorities to create solutions as we move our Township forward. My vision is for one community rather than an HBM divided into sections defined by location i.e. lake, Town, Hamlet and electoral wards. I will welcome and invite biannual meetings with HBMLA to support Council on environmental and lake issues. Maintaining and improving our lake and wetland environments is a priority to me. Updating our website and developing a new communication strategy for our Township will bring us all together with consistent, accurate information of the Township.

Thank You for the opportunity to answer your questions and I look forward talking with you at the All Candidates Meetings.

Andy Sharpe for Mayor

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Jim Collins - Deputy Mayor

Yes lakes and waterways should be tested regularly it is essential to everyone. Septic system's should also be tested could also effect lakes and waterways. Taxes nobody likes them but we all know we need them. And no they should not be raised above inflation rate.

And yes all levels of government should be involved with H.B.M.

As for the budget a public forum I agree should be available. I think the public must be aware and input is essential.

Thanks for this opportunity to answer your questions. And if elected I work for you.

Jim Collins

Deputy mayor candidate.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Jim

David Gerow – Deputy Mayor

My name is David Gerow and I am running for the position of Deputy Mayor for Havelock Belmont Methuen. I am a lifelong resident of Havelock. I worked at and retired from Unimin mine, where I was a heavy equipment operator and driller blaster, as well as the union president for 2 terms. I was a safe boating instructor for 10 years and owned and operated a fishing charter business. For the past 4 years I have been Board Chair of the Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance, encompassing 14 different municipalities.

I have represented this municipality for 2 terms on council...one as village councillor and one as township ward councillor. I was the council representative on various committees. I am able to commit to the time required to be an effective member of council. I am now asking for your support in representing you in the position of Deputy Mayor both at the township level and at the county level. I have gained experience and knowledge and feel I am able to make good informed decisions on your behalf.

Here are my responses to the questions asked by the HBMLA:

Regular water testing on local lakes

My understanding is at the present time most of the lake associations carry out their own water sampling and testing for clarity, phosphorous and e-coli levels. Sharing the water quality information with council and staff would not only keep the lines of communication open but will allow us to work together to find the causes of any issues but also may assist in finding their solutions. If there is any lake association that do not participate in water testing, I would like to see HBMLA, along with council, encourage them to do so. Together we would help them in any way we can in order to keep our water quality at the highest standard possible. I feel regular water testing is essential.

Septic Re-inspection Program

I am in favour of septic inspections. I feel they are an important part of keeping our waterfront residents and water quality in good health. Without getting into specifics about how a program would be designed, the HBMLA will have to take a major role in this project.

Plans to target tax increases at or near the level of inflation.

There are tax increases beyond our control such as OPP, school tax and county taxes. In regards to the county taxes, we do have 2 representatives at the council

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

table, who have input for our municipality. Perhaps one idea is for us, collectively, to lobby for a seat at the table when the OPP and the Ontario Government negotiate the next OPP contract, which is coming up during the next term of council. As it stands today, we just get presented the bill with no say in the cost. The portion of tax that we control continues to be a juggling act with the volatile changes in the cost of fuel, equipment etc. I will continue to seek out ways to keep the cost of running our municipality at a minimum, while thinking about the services for and the safety of our residents. I am always open to suggestions and ideas from all municipal residents.

Setting a fixed review period for municipal budget setting to allow for citizen participation

All budget meetings are advertised and open to the public. Comments and questions can be taken into consideration but council and staff review budgets (operating and capital).

Working productively with other levels of government (Peterborough County, Province of Ontario, Government of Canada) to support HBM priorities.

I believe that HBMLA can play a role in assisting council in working with other levels of government when there are projects that arise because members of the HBMLA have contacts that could be a great source of information. We are fortunate to have a lot of talented individuals in HBM who may be willing to assist in these projects.

Implementing a renewed/updated Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw

HBMLA can be helpful in this by participating...come to the council meetings. All of these meetings, as well as the Official Plan meetings are open to the public, whereby they can give input towards these plans. Residents may also send a letter to HBM on any of the issues regarding the Official Plan or Zoning Bylaw amendments. There is a process in place that we have to follow when it comes to our Official Plan and at the present time, that is what we are doing. I realize that our Official Plan has not been adopted, as it is before the OMB board. In the very near future we will have to develop a new Official Plan, bearing in mind that we have a new government in power and there are some major changes coming.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Amanda O'Rourke – Councillor – At Large

Thank you for identifying the priorities of Havelock Belmont Methuen Lake Association and requesting my comments. I am happy to comment on these very important issues, as they are issues that are also important to me. I feel it is crucial for council, citizens and the HBMLA to work together and be accountable for these issues.

Regular water testing on local lakes

As a local resident of HBM my family and myself regularly use our beautiful lakes to swim, fish and play. Our farm is within walking distance of Belmont Lake. I feel that it is extremely important to look after our waters and be good stewards to protect these resources for future generations. I believe regular water testing is a great example of an issue that the HBMLA and council can work together on. It is important to create a baseline for water quality and must be done to ensure the safety of everyone and the environment. I feel that HBMLA has a wealth of knowledge about our lakes and feel council and HBMLA should work together to make sure concerns are being met. It is important to be proactive when it comes to our environment and have the proper guidelines and procedures in place to ensure water quality is protected.

Septic reinspection program

The septic reinspection program goes hand and hand with water testing. Other townships within Peterborough county are actively involved in the septic reinspection program. As a community rich in natural resources we should adopt the reinspection program. Failing sewage systems can pose a serious threat to both public health and our natural environment. As councillor at large, I will promote septic system education within the township.

Plans to target tax increases at or near the level of inflation

As a rural land owner, I have gradually seen our taxes increase and my concern is for the future. Cost keeps going up and the taxes continue to rise. I will work to create manageable budgets at the township while thinking about the long-term tax implications for all residents. The township is seeing growth in the construction of new houses in the area and I believe the solution to tax pressure is a strong economic plan focusing on increasing the tax-base in HBM.

Setting a fixed review period for municipal budget setting to allow for citizen participation

As councillor at large, I recognize the need for fixed budget meeting dates. Draft

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

budget meetings need to be communicated and posted on the HBM website, newsletters, digital signs, and various social media outlets. Clear communication is needed to ensure public awareness about the HBM budget, and how it may affect citizens.

Working productively with other levels of government to support HBM priorities

In my previous experience as the Havelock Hub Program Coordinator, I understand the importance of working with different levels of government and agencies, to come up with a clear vision and understanding of how to serve my community. Working productively with all levels of government is crucial in getting the support and resources we need for our lakes, township and village. As councillor at large, I will work hard at being a strong voice, advocating at all levels of government for the benefit of HBM residents.

Official Plan and zoning bylaw

The official plan is a very important document guiding our townships future, encompassing planning, bylaws, zoning and land use policy for day to day administration. It is important to have current documents that are approved. I attempted to research more about the status of the official plan and zoning by-law and was unable to find clarity from the township staff. As a new councillor I feel that this should be a high priority to keep these documents current and approved.

I feel that the current council is lacking in diversity and connection to the people. We need stronger voices and more advocacy. I am running as councillor at Large to help people have clearer communication with the municipality and build a strong community together. Havelock Belmont Methuen is a region full of potential. To realize this potential, we need a council that is creative, diverse, and willing to improve our community and make change happen.

Please contact me if you have any further questions or concerns regarding my comments.

Thank you for your continued involvement in our community. I look forward to meeting you,

Amanda O'Rourke
Candidate for Councillor at Large- HBM
www.facebook.com/voteamanda2018
705-761-7308

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Hart Webb – Councillor – At Large

1. Water testing --

Our lakes in HBM are our prime resource and it is vital that we work together, council and residents, to do all that we can to preserve this precious resource. Water testing has been conducted for many years on our lakes either by volunteers or by lake associations. The results that I have seen in recent years have been encouraging (lower phosphorous levels, lower e.coli levels), but we must ensure that this trend continues. I would like to see the water testing data collected by the LA's put on the township website so the information is there for anyone to see at any time. That way residents would have the data on the testing in their lakes and on the lakes that might feed into theirs. Moving forward, I believe we as a township should use a three pronged approach - preserve, protect, and promote. Preserve our lakes so that future generations can enjoy them just as we have. Protect our lakes from the many dangers of today and looking into the future (pollution, invasive species, effects of climate change) and try educate residents on what they can do to help. Promote environmentally friendly practices on our lakes, such as the preservation of natural shorelines and discouraging the use of products or pollutants which could leach into our lakes. Additional signage at our boat launches to warn of all of these dangers would help with educating the public as well.

2. Septic-Tank Inspection--

Council entered into negotiations with the HBMLA concerning implementing a septic tank inspection program back in 2015. Council, the HBMLA, and the Peterborough County Health Unit worked together for many months to try and create a program that was both environmentally thorough in the inspection process but still cost effective to the tax payer. Unfortunately, once the HBMLA took the program to their membership there was not enough support to move it forward. A mandatory septic tank inspection program is being tried in North Kawartha Township at the moment but we have not received enough data to assess whether it was a success or not. In my opinion it is only a matter of time before you see some kind of septic inspection program implemented. Now whether that will happen next year or 5 years from now, depend a lot upon the will of water front owners to accept the program. It is important that whichever solution we come up with, that it meets our goals of eliminating faulty septic tanks for the future health of our lakes while trying to minimize the financial burden to the taxpayer.

3. Tax Increases--

Trying to promote growth while limiting the burden placed on the taxpayer is a challenge to any council. Being a smaller municipality with smaller tax revenues only adds to the challenge. Over the past four years I believe this

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

council has done fairly good job of keeping tax levies down during a period where HBM has seen a number of major projects come to fruition. We have been able to keep our tax levies in the 3-4% range (inflation typically 2-3%) while neighboring townships have seen tax increases in the 6-10% range. Much of this has been achieved by council and staff being aggressive in seeking Federal and Provincial grants. Over the past four years the township has received approximately \$4.5 million in Federal and Provincial grants. Other methods council have utilized to keep expenditures down are trying to strictly adhere to our asset management plan (which helps greatly when trying to secure certain gov't grants). I will always fight for keeping a low tax rate for ratepayers., and hopefully as we develop and grow here in HBM, we can further grow the tax base to lower the tax burden carried by water front property owners.

4.Fixed Review Period for Budget--

Setting a fixed review period for municipal budgets is something that council has been working on. We understand the desire of our seasonal residents to be involved in the budget process. Council has tried to follow a schedule whereby we begin the budget process in September and try to have it completed and passed by December/January. It typically begins in September because by then most staff have returned from summer vacation - as well by that point we are almost at the end of Q3 of the fiscal year. This allows council and staff to better analyze how close we are to meeting this years budget, and also account in the upcoming budget for any unforeseen costs or overruns. Each of the past four years we have held 3 public meetings during the budget process. Usually the first is in October and this is generally when the public can offer their opinions on what they would like to see in the budget. The second meeting is in November/December when the draft budget is released, and the third meeting is when the final draft is released. I know the lake associations have expressed a desire to have the budget process moved up, however I'm not sure this would benefit the overall process in that we would be trying to make decisions without all the pertinent information. A better approach might be to have all budget information published on the townships' new website and include some kind of forum where residents who are no longer in the area can remain informed and provide their own input. These thoughts or concerns could then be passed on to council for consideration during the budget process.

5.Working with Other Levels of Government--

Obviously being one of the smaller municipalities greatly limits the tax dollars we have at our disposal. In order to bring growth and modernization to this community without greatly inflating the tax rate, it is incumbent for this council to partner and work productively with upper tier governments in order to secure funding for many of our projects here in HBM. I think we have achieved due to the hard work of staff. In the past four years we have received approx.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

\$4.5 million in grants. Over the past four years we have worked hand-in-hand with the provincial Ministry of Health to bring a new 128-bed long term care facility and medical centre to our township. A project that should bring 50 full-time jobs and approx. 100 part-time jobs to our community. This should also provide an economic boost to local businesses as well as satisfying a major need in our community. We have also worked closely with the Ministry of Transportation in an effort to try and get them to take back our "Connecting link", which has been and will continue to be a financial burden to the township. Currently, we are still working with the MNRF on issues surrounding campers on crown land, and trying to reduce the extremely high levy we pay the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority. In years to come it is essential that future councils engage all levels of government in order to secure both partnerships and funding that can benefit our township.

6.Updating Official Plan--

HBM's Official Plan was last renewed in 2012 by council. Currently we review the Official Plan every five years here on council with the next review expected in the next term of council. With new environmental regulations constantly being passed by higher levels of government It is crucial that we as a municipality stay up to date with our plan in order to properly protect our township from both over development and the wrong kinds of development. Whatever changes or amendments are suggested I hope they will both expediate the planning process for those involved and reduce the administration costs born by the municipality. From time to time in planning, the township and residents get caught up in the differences between the Peterborough County official plan and our own official plan here in HBM. Council has been approached by the county to see whether or not we would like to adopt the counties' official plan as our own. This would solve some problems with conflicts between the two plans but it would limit the townships' autonomy when it comes to planning issues. All of these matters will have to be discussed during the review process, which will include the public, and ultimately it will be the property owners who decide.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Larry Ellis – Councillor - Township Ward

My name is Larry W Ellis, a Township Ward candidate in the upcoming municipal election. I would like to give you a quick bio. If you do not remember me from my previous terms on council, this is what I contributed when on the council and will bring this if elected.

I am a retired senior production business manager with 25 years of experience in achieving goals, done in an efficient manner. I feel I was a strong voice addressing important issues during my terms of council and look forward to addressing your issues next term on your behalf. I am an approachable person with the time to commit and focus on HBM and you.

I reside at our heritage farm on the sixth line and spend summers at our cottage at Belmont lake. Am well aware of lake issues and ready to support be your voice.

As an experienced Councillor, I am well of the importance lake property owners are to our municipality. Their contribution economically and without their tax dollars we would not be able to maintain the level of services we have.

The next term of council should recognize the importance of the HBMLA and have more open communication during the term not just at budget time. Possibly a tome slot on agendas will increase communication. It should be noted that the great job done my lake volunteers identifying environment issues and water quality. Maybe this could be part of a report to council, if the HBMLA were give the time slot on councils agenda. Again improving communication.

Management skills in efficiencies, meeting goals in a timely manor, looking for need to be a way of doing business if we are going to operate our municipality without large increases in taxation.

Council need to be very open to collaborating with other municipalities, Counties to improve how we manage.

EG: integrated waste, for efficiencies. Roads eg: County road 50 was repaved by Northumberland County. A few kilometers of this road in our County needing the same work could have been completed at the same time much more efficiently. It still is in much need.

We need positive open dialogue with staff. Respect them but give clear direction on issues. If elected i will investigate why we are losing our key staff.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

It's important that we now meet our new Premier to give him an understanding of our expectations. When a new County Warden elected also invited him periodically to keep him updated.

Unfortunately our Official Plan was challenged to the OMB and has not allowed our municipality to implement the bylaws. The CAO told me this has now been resolved. It is hard to understand why it took almost 4 years to resolve.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Kelly Falls – Councillor – Township Ward

To. All members of HBMLA

Dear members.

I have received your email on concerns that you would like addressed.

I am looking forward to working with HBMLA and all other associations in our township.

As a hopeful new member of council, I am hoping to work with the new council to ensure all concerns are looked into, including working with Peterborough County and all other chains of government. From the email I received, the concerns you would like addressed are important. This is going to be a learning experience, that I am respectfully not taking it lightly and hope to over come all obstacles, in achieving solutions to concerns that will impact the taxpayers for the better.

YOURS TRULEY,

Kelly Falls

Hopeful township ward candidate.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Kathy Clement

I am 61 years old and currently employed as an Engineering Associate (draw & design) for Bell Canada. I will be retiring in early 2019 after 38 years of service.

My husband Pete and I have been married for 33 years. Pete is retired and is actively involved in the HBM seniors club. He was previously a business owner for 33 years in Peterborough and prior to that a police officer with the City of Peterborough.

I was raised just outside of Tweed, Ontario and moved to Belleville after graduating high school and then moved to Peterborough. I have a diploma from SSFC in computer studies. The rest of my education for engineering and small design has been through my employer.

I have always done volunteering and this includes site supervisor for Habitat for Humanity, captain of the Dragon Boat races for 5 years, bowling for Big Brothers/Big Sisters just to name a few. I currently volunteer the first Saturday of each month at the seniors club. I help to provide luncheons at a reasonable cost.

I have just completed the first course offered by the OMB and if elected I promise to complete all of them.

If anyone wishes to meet me on an individual basis they can call me at home and I will gladly meet with them. I am planning on a meet and greet in September at the board room of the seniors club.

REGULAR WATER TESTING ON LOCAL LAKES:

I believe that water is our most sacred commodity and we need to look after it. The MNR and the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority should be working with council and the HBMLA to ensure that regular testing is done. I'm not sure if the Secchi disk has been used here for testing or not. It is something that I would have to do a lot more homework on.

SEPTIC REINSPECTION PROGRAM:

I checked and I couldn't find if HBM has a mandatory/voluntary program. Since septic waste is such a hazard to people and the environment I would have thought that something would be in place to address this issue. If not, then this needs to be addressed.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

PLANS TO TARGET TAX INCREASES AT OR NEAR THE LEVEL OF INFLATION & SETTING A FIXED REVIEW PERIOD FOR MUNICIPAL BUDGET

If elected I will be taking the Municipal Finance 101 course and would be able to address this matter in a more educated manner.

WORKING WITH OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT HBM PRIORITIES.

It is my understanding that currently members of council are on different boards and this could be reviewed. I think we can always improve working relations with the county and the province.

IMPLEMENTING A RENEWED/UPDATED OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BYLAW:

This is a tricky question. I checked the HBM website and it covers a lot of information. I think it could be simplified somewhat and it should be updated yearly.

HBMLA – Election Responses from Candidates

Jonathon Prosser – Councillor - Village Ward

Thank you Mr. Williamson for taking the time to contact me. My name is Jonathan Prosser and I am running for the village Ward in Havelock in the upcoming election. Even though I am running for the village I realize that as council all members deal with the entire municipality.

Allow me to give you a little background on myself. I am a graduate in Business Administration, I am married with 5 children and I am self employed for the past 8 years. I am very active in the community serving in several volunteer positions and I am currently the president of the Havelock Lions Club. I try to stay up to date on what is happening in the town by attending the council meetings. I have attended the past 5 years of meetings only missing a few in the time.

Now to address your questions.

Water testing

I will admit I am not up to speed on this topic. I had thought that all lakes and rivers were being tested by the province. Upon receiving your question I looked it up online to see that anyone can have their lake tested if they take in a water sample. I know this is a pain to take this on, but it would be the cheapest alternative. My only concern with having lakes tested by a staff person would be the added cost to taxes to pay for it. I do see water testing on our lakes as a priority. We all want clean rivers and lakes free of contamination

Septic inspections

I have conflicting opinions on septic inspections. I believe that we must keep our lakes and rivers free of contamination and old septic systems are certainly a problem but on the other hand I own a country property not in our township and I would not want someone coming in telling me that I have to pay for an inspection that may lead to more money out of my pocket. The township my country property is in has a voluntary septic inspection and that only works if you allow them to test. I would be interested to hear how you and the other HBMLA members feel about an annual inspection and the fee that would be appropriate to go along with it. As a councillor it would be my job to act on behalf of the taxpayers not on my own personal feelings.

Tax increase held to inflation – participation in budget planning

I understand where you are coming from with tax increase. I own my home in Havelock and then I own a piece of property up north. We all know that if you are on the water your taxes will be higher because of the value of your

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property. The taxes brought in by the citizens on the water makes it easier to operate the township. I am a very frugal individual who will work hard to keep tax increase to a minimal. I don't believe we need to spend on unnecessary things.

I have sat in on council meetings for the past 5 years and I have to say that I am very happy to see the township open its doors to the HBMLA to allow them to help with the budget. I do agree that if we had a date set in writing saying the budget will be ready for public review by a certain time it would be easier for citizens to come in and make comments on changes that they would like. I will work alongside you anyway I can.

Work productively with other level of governments

Working with others is something I do. I just had a conversation with some folks connected with our new MPP yesterday. The current and new council are going to have to start working with him soon on the long term care building as it is not set in stone like we were led to believe. The role of council is to work for betterment of the municipality. No matter what it takes HBM needs to be better off at the end of the council's term then when they went in. HBM is a great place to live and I want to see it become even better. I have been in Havelock for 13 years and love it here. I grew up in Campbellford and moved to Havelock because the council kept raising the taxes until you couldn't afford to live there. We can improve our town/township without raising the taxes.

Implementing a new official plan and zoning bylaws

I have watched the current council work on the official plan over the past four years and it is a big job. Working on a new official plan and zoning bylaws are definitely needed but I will say it is a big job. We all know that big jobs cost money. As a council member I have no problem dedicating a day a week to getting the job done but that means we would be taking a staff member away from their job and having the planner involved. Everything we do cost money. I stated earlier I am very frugal and will work hard for my constituents to represent them.

If anyone wishes to contact me or meet with me I am available. Even though I am self employed I do work weekends away from home so I will not be able to attend the debates listed.

[**PROSJON@YAHOO.CA**](mailto:PROSJON@YAHOO.CA)