# **Kim Taylor**

# Candidate Information

Candidacy for: Trustee

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Occupation/Vocation: Redford Twp Trustee; Business Office

Manager at Homeline Appliance

Party: Democrat

Resident of Redford 35 years

All answers below are verbatim from the candidate's responses to the questionnaire. Edits were made to correct minor errors (e.g. misplaced apostrophe). Bracketed words are edits where words were inadvertently left out by the candidate. Unanswered questions are left blank.

# **GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

Why are you running for office? I am an incumbent of 8 years with more work to accomplish.

What experience do you bring to the role for which you are running? I have been your Trustee for 8 years. I am a Redford business owner for 32 years. I was president of a school board for 5 years. I have been civically engaged for 30 years.

### AFFORDABLE LIVING IN REDFORD

Do you consider Redford an affordable community for its current and prospective residents? Yes

Please explain your answer to the question above. How is it proving affordable? Or if unaffordable, what changes would you advocate to make it more so? When we moved here, the same home just blocks over into Livonia cost 3 times as much. You can buy more home here in Redford for less money. The average cost to buy a home in Michigan is \$238,800. In Redford the average cost is \$165,800. However, we need to fight for more state revenue sharing to help bring our property taxes down. We also have a long term plan to provide other housing options to young people who cannot afford to buy homes [in] today's day and age.

# REDFORD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Is Redford's vision to be a business-friendly community succeeding? No.

How is Redford succeeding or not succeeding to be a business-friendly community? What specifically could the Board of Trustees do, if anything, to bring more businesses into Redford? Our long term strategic plan, that I helped develop, WILL help us become more business friendly with our "walkable cities" plan. This will take time and change. The goal is to not just have a plan [but] to make that plan come to fruition with action. Changing old ordinances to allow for multiple use buildings in our retail area is going to be a big help. Changing the layout of the roads in our downtown area and slowing down the speed limit to make the area more pedestrian friendly will also help grow business in our DDA area. But, we also need to let businesses know we are out here. Don't just look at Detroit or Livonia, but consider Redford.

# **CRIME/POLICE**

With the current challenge to recruit new officers into the police department, do you believe safety and security in Redford are at risk? No

Please share your thoughts on police officer recruitment and its impact on the safety and security of the community. We are doing everything within our power to increase recruitment, including sponsoring cadets, lateral hires and increased marketing, to name a few. It is a nationwide issue. Redford's officers are doing a fantastic job of filling the gaps. Our new Police Chief has drive and vision and will make sure her hometown is as safe as it can possibly be and we on the board support her efforts 1000%.

#### FREEDOM OF SPEECH

In light of today's divisive cultural climate, there is debate on whether the current restriction of speech which threatens or incites direct physical violence should be expanded to include speech perceived as emotionally or spiritually harmful (or "hate speech" as it is often called).

Do you support modifying the free speech standard to disallow speech that is perceived as emotionally or spiritually harmful?

Please explain your position regarding speech that is perceived as emotionally/spiritually harmful and how it relates to the First Amendment. This is not an issue that affects local policy making.

# **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES**

Do you believe the promotion of DEI initiatives in Redford Township's government and community activities is beneficial or not beneficial?

Beneficial

Please share the pros and cons that you see related to DEI either in principle or implementation. I do not see any cons to making sure programs, policies and procedures are equitable for all.

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Do you believe humanity's impact on climate change poses an immediate threat to the Redford community?

Please share how Redford should respond to this issue. Climate change is not a local issue. It is a worldwide issue. One that has little bearing on local policy making. Its impact is a threat to all communities. WORLD WIDE.

### PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE

Who do you consider the most vulnerable and in need of protection in Redford?

Please share how you would like to see these vulnerable persons ensured greater protection in the Redford community. Protection from what? From who? The question is vague at best. And again, other than protections offered through first responders, not an issue that is usually addressed at the local level.

# **ENGAGING WITH THE FAITH COMMUNITY**

Redford has a diverse faith community, many of whom are practicing some form of Christianity and attending one of the local churches. This questionnaire has been developed for these practicing Christians.

Are you regularly engaged with a local church either in Redford or in a nearby city?

#### **ENDORSEMENTS**

Please list any organizations or public figures who have given you their endorsement. It's too early to tell. (F2DA will follow up to provide this information as the election date draws closer).

## **CONCLUDING WORDS**

In <u>10 words</u> or less, what do you consider the most pressing need for Redford Township? This brief answer will be included in the printed voter guide. Growth, Change, Development.

Feel free to share additional comments to the question above. Redford needs to become more than a "bedroom community" if we are to thrive. That can only be done through vision, change and growth.