

Top Reasons Why the Hayes Township Board Needs to Be Replaced

- Failed to file required annual financial reports to State of Michigan on time, 5 years in a row. Failed to file required bi-annual audits on time in 2020 & 2022.
- Audits for 2022 and 2023 exposed Board's inability to do accurate accounting and budgeting, and several violations of state law, requiring yearly audits and more costs.
- Board never amends the budget, violating state law. **Auditor said: "The Township Board of Trustees was not aware of the true financial status of any of the Township's funds and; therefore could not make any sound financial decisions."**
- Clerk's inability and unwillingness to produce reports on the status of the budget or on total expenses paid.
- EMS services now cost Hayes taxpayers **\$397,000*** per year in a separate EMS millage. Previous costs, about \$38,000 per year. *See Charlevoix County Equalization Apportionment report for 2023.
- Unreported \$98,027 unpaid bill owed to City of Charlevoix for past EMS services.
- This Board put the Township in long-term debt for over \$1 million for EMS station. If EMS millage ever fails, the Township is on hook for entire debt.
- No transparency. Board regularly votes with no discussion. Important records are not on website, requiring residents to request them through FOIA (Freedom of Information Act).

August 6 Primary will have new candidates!

Endorsements inside

Hayes
Voters
For
Change



It is time for a change in Township leadership! Thank you BILL CONKLIN, LAURA FORD, SHERRY BAKER-McCARY, and KEVIN WILLIS for stepping up!

- Zoning Administrator Ron Van Zee makes illegal decisions and substandard reports. Obvious conflict of interest in his dual role as Supervisor.
- Planning Commissioners are destroying our good zoning ordinance, rewriting it to allow for "compromise" on waterfront parcels, putting Township at legal risk, and outright permission allowing destruction and excavation of shoreland. Our lakes belong to everyone and must be protected.
- Unfinished Parks and Recreation Plan with poorly designed survey. Lack of the plan made Township ineligible for state grants in 2024.
- Illegal purchase of unnecessary fire truck.
- No support for Bay Shore residents on gravel pit.
- Intimidates the residents with police presence at meetings when Board expects more attendance.
- Got rid of Short Term Rental ordinance. Ron Van Zee did not recuse from voting despite owning a short term rental.

If you are voting on the Republican side of the Aug 6 primary ballot, we urge you to vote for only these three endorsed candidates:

William (Bill) Conklin, Sherry Baker-McCary, and Kevin Willis.
(Save your votes for Clerk and second Trustee for the November election.)



SHERRY BAKER-MCCARY FOR HAYES TOWNSHIP TREASURER



BILL CONKLIN, FOR HAYES TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

Bill Conklin (Republican) is an experienced attorney representing families and small businesses. Bill would conduct township board meetings with integrity. He sees the current Board treating the residents with disrespect and is concerned with the Board of Trustees and Planning Commission not following the law. Bill wants to maintain the rural character of our community, is against the Township's efforts to revise and weaken the zoning ordinance, and was against the approval of the Laws' "boathouse"/ shoreland destruction. He is opposed to the conflict of interest the Township currently has with the township supervisor also being the zoning administrator. Bill is the responsible new leadership we need. **Vote for BILL CONKLIN for SUPERVISOR on August 6!**

Sherry Baker-McCary (Republican) brings the right skills and experience to the treasurer role, having worked for 38 years for a private club as a bookkeeper and later the office manager, responsible for accounts payable and payroll. She would go through yearly audits. The recent Hayes Township audits indicating numerous improper and illegal procedures were alarming to her. With her vast experience and life's work in accounting and bookkeeping, Sherry would bring Hayes Township's financial procedures back in compliance with state laws. **Vote on August 6 for SHERRY BAKER-McCARY for TREASURER.**

IMPORTANT: On the August 6 Primary ballot, VOTE ONLY FOR CANDIDATES IN ONE PARTY. Voting in more than one party will INVALIDATE all your votes.

Watch our endorsement interviews with the candidates on our Website or YouTube channel.



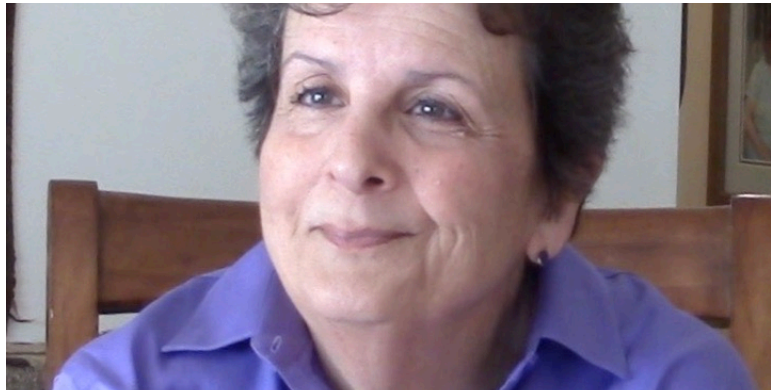
KEVIN WILLIS FOR HAYES TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Kevin Willis (Republican) grew up in Bay Shore in Hayes Township and still lives there today. He has worked for over 25 years as the Chief Conservation Officer for Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, of which he is a member, and has strong law enforcement and environmental ethics. He recently went back to court with fellow intervenors to enforce the provisions of the consent judgment to protect Bay Shore residents from the many harms of continued mining. Kevin was motivated to run for office after observing the lack of leadership and the misdeeds of the current board. His dedication to following the laws, and treating Hayes Township residents with respect is what makes KEVIN WILLIS stand out. **Vote on August 6 FOR ONLY ONE TRUSTEE, KEVIN WILLIS.** Make him #1!

Interested in running for Trustee? There are TWO Trustee spots on the Board. Independent and minor party candidates can file before July 18, by 4 pm.

There is still time to file for the November ballot. Pick up Qualifying Petitions to run with “No Party Affiliation” or with a minor party, at the County Clerk’s office. File with Hayes Township Clerk.

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LAURA FORD FOR HAYES CLERK

VOTE FOR LAURA ONLY IF YOU ARE VOTING ON THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE OF THE BALLOT ON AUG 6. YOU CANNOT VOTE FOR DEMOCRAT LAURA FORD, AND ALSO THE 3 REPUBLICAN ENDORSED CANDIDATES, CONKLIN, BAKER-MCCARY AND WILLIS IN AUGUST. DOING SO WOULD INVALIDATE ALL YOUR VOTES!

Laura Ford (Democrat) has an extensive professional background in the health care field as a certified nurse practitioner. She has a PhD and teaches at the university level. Dedicated to following the laws, and listening to the residents, Laura would run township business with accuracy, transparency, and competence. We endorse LAURA FORD for CLERK for Democratic voters in the Aug 6 Democratic primary, where she is running unopposed. She will likely face incumbent clerk Kristin Baranski (R) in November. We want Laura Ford to be our next clerk as part of a new board with Bill, Sherry and Kevin. Be careful not to invalidate your August primary ballot!

To Elect a New Hayes Township Board
We urge you to vote on the REPUBLICAN side of the ballot in the August 6 primary election for

Bill Conklin for Supervisor
Sherry Baker-McCary for Treasurer
Kevin Willis for Trustee *(Put Kevin on top! Vote for only 1 trustee)*

Then in the November general election, vote for all four endorsed candidates, Conklin, Baker-McCary and Willis, and Laura Ford. A great new team!

Thank you for the response to our first newsletter!

Thanks to the many people who donated to this Political Committee. Contributions allow us to continue our work endorsing and advocating for candidates, purchasing yard signs, and bringing issues with the current board to your attention with more newsletters. See **our website and Facebook** for more on our endorsed candidates and updates.

HayesVotersForChange.org www.facebook.com/Hayes_Voters_For_Change

Volunteer to go Door-to-Door to elect a new Township Board!

E-mail us at: hayesvotersforchange@gmail.com

Watch the candidates' endorsement interviews at:

YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@HayesVotersForChange>



Please help us get the word out!
Donate to HAYES VOTERS FOR CHANGE

Write check and mail to: Hayes Voters For Change
 09799 Townline Road, Petoskey, MI 49770-9106
 Please provide the required information: your name, home address, occupation (or retired), employer name and employer address. *Donations NOT tax deductible.

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