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A huge thank you goes out to the “HRAA” and Faith Covenant Church for hosting a Trustee Candidate Q&A. There are 4 candidates this year and 2 seats open. I have questions that needed answers and I received some Tuesday. Mr. Welsh has demonstrated quality leadership, responsibility, and genuine concern for the community and the Township. He has taken the lead on several roles that matter to our township, and made a difference. The last four years I have noticed a difference in the community and the township, thanks to the HRAA and Mr. Welsh. After attending I still have some un-answered questions. All four candidates talked a lot about infrastructure and the need for improvement, something I really agree with. Mr. Welsh presented some good answers and because of his track record I believe him – He will get my VOTE. One concern, he ran two years ago and was defeated by a 24 year incumbent: do the residents believe in him? But I still have one vote left. All of the candidates talked of much needed improvements, but concerns still remain. Mrs. Heichel stated several times that Huber Ridge is referred to as a “ghetto”, this puzzles and offends me. Her husband was the police chief for several years, and her great friend of the family, current trustee Mr. Ward has been on the board for 26 years. Why is the concern now about the infrastructure? Did not the deterioration of the township fall upon the watch of her husband and close family friend and trustee? Will she now be working with Mr. Ward if elected? Would this be the same situation that the deterioration began and continued in? Would this be a throwback to the “good ol boys” era? What has changed that the infrastructure is now important and was not for the last 32 years before this election? There appears to be no leadership experience or substance to back up her ideas. What do we have to go on besides her word? Mrs. Heichel has some good points and views and seems sincere, but are they genuine? She is a smart person. Mr. Stallings had some good answers but appeared very fidgety and appeared to have muddled comments for a lot of the other candidate’s responses. When I found out he has been the Vice-President of the Sunburywoods Civic Association and the participation from the association has been very dismal to say the least, this worries me about his true leadership. We have been fighting the water company for some time now and sunburywoods has failed to even participate. I have checked and Mr. Stallings has never written to the PUCO before being appointed to the trustee position this past June. At 30 years of age and 4 kids under the age of 9, and one on the way, I wonder if he will be able to truly perform the job of Trustee. Truly his family should come first. Should he hold off until the kids get older when his attention can be better served to the township? Could some maturity (after seeing the displays at the Q&A) in aging occur before serving the township be appropriate? His lack of leadership skills in other services has raised some questions. Mr. Flaherty had some good answers and was very quick to respond. Since serving as Trustee a lot of changes seem to have happened, most of them positive. Rumpke trash was not one of them. It appears he has very similar views or listens to Mr. Welsh’s concerns and idea’s. The idea of Mr. Welsh and Mr. Flaherty working together to better the township is a plus. But Mr. Flaherty appears to be a polished and bright politician, and I have to wonder if the Trustee position is a springboard for his career? We do not need another Mr. Bacon. Will Mr. Flaherty work well with the other Trustee’s? I guess I am writing this to ask residents if you have answers to some of these questions. The future of the township really relies on this election. Do we want more of the same? Do we want to move forward into the 21st century? Do you want to increase your property values? Do you want to get rid of Ohio American Water? Do we want proven leadership with results? Do we want to gamble with the future of Blendon Township? In reading the above questions as I write them, only ONE candidate comes to mind. But what about my other vote? I am leaning toward Mr. Flaherty. I truly would like you all to consider this post and respond truthfully. PEASE: NO CANDIDATES RESPOND or family of the candidates- you have had your chance. I apologize if this post feels like a campaign for one candidate, it truly is NOT. I need some input, maybe my views are too left field. I do not take this election lightly, and the future of my home relies on my (our) decisions Nov 3rd. We are being asked by each candidate to hire them as Trustee of our Township. This responsibility should not be taken lightly. If you were hiring a CEO for your company what qualifications matter to you? Do any or all of these candidates fit these qualifications? We are being asked to elect two trustee’s to run our township, spend our hard earned tax dollars appropriately, and represent us – the residents. The future of Blendon Township does rely on our vote November 3rd. I posted once before about my frustration with the numerous vacant homes in our neighborhood. My husband and I have decided to attempt to sell our home and feel that the property next to us may have an impact on the sale of our home. The house has been sitting empty for over 2 years (along with the house behind us that has been empty for 9 1/2 years...that is no mistake...9 1/2 years) . I attempted to contact Huber Home Rentals several times with a question. They never returned my calls until I “lied” and said I was interested in renting one of their homes.....which they promptly called back. I asked if they would allow me to enter the home and install window treatments (mini-blinds) and that I was willing to pay for them. They quickly told me no, the manager would not allow me to do that. No explanation as to why. I continued to express my concern with the vacant homes. The lady I spoke with said that I am the first person to call recently about their homes. I asked her if they have any plan on improving the appearance of the homes. She said they have no plan at this time to improve/remodel their homes. I asked her if she was proud to show the homes to potential renters. She said she was not proud and that she would not live in one. I found that interesting. It would be nice if they would install window treatments on all of the properties to at least give the illusion that the properties are occupied. A friend of mine told me that many neighborhoods require window treatments. Does anyone know if this is a “law” or rule for Huber Ridge homes? I spent 2 hours yesterday and about an hour and half today cleaning up the yard. I pulled weeds, trimmed bushes and cleaned up all of the broken tree branches. Hope it helps a little. So frustrating! I hope that our home sells without difficulty and that the neighborhood will improve over the years. Huber Ridge could be such a nice neighborhood. Thanks for listening to my rant :)

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