

*N E Dills & Associates, L.L.C.*

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CITY of CHARLOTTE  
111 E. Lawrence Ave.  
Charlotte, MI 48813

RE: Consideration for appointment to the City Council.

Honorable Mayor Lewis and City Council Members;

My name is Ned Dills. My residence has been 220 Prairie St. for the past 22 years. I have been married to my wife, Kim, for 20 years. We have three children and six grand children.

I graduated from Charlotte High School in 1971. I continued my education at Ferris State and Central Michigan Universities, graduating in 1978 with a Bachelor Degree in Business Data Processing and Minors in Business Management and Pre Law. I pursued a career in the computer field for two years. During this time, I also became an instructor at Lansing Community College teaching Data Processing classes.

Moving to Seattle Washington and then to Portland Oregon, I continued my computer career working for the large companies Consolidated Freightways and Weyerhaeuser Lumber. Having an interest in sales, I moved to Eugene, Oregon and became part owner and Sales Manager for a small computer service company. I eventually moved on to become the Director of Marketing for a company selling computer switching devices to the publishing industry globally. I held Board positions at this company as well as an organization named the Eugene Software Council.

Ending my office career in 1989, I returned to my love of the outdoors and operating heavy equipment working for large construction firms back in Seattle. After refreshing my equipment skills, I formed N. E. Dills & Associates, an excavating firm doing business in the Puget Sound area until family matters required my attention back in Michigan.

Now based in Charlotte, Kim and I share ownership in this successful full-service excavating business serving customers approximately 50 to 60 mile from home. The business has introduced us to many interesting people, some who have become an important part of our lives.

Approaching retirement age, I have begun to think of other channels for my energy. I remembered a class in 8<sup>th</sup> grade called "CIVICS". For those too young to recall, it dealt with the founding and evolution of Michigan Government. Combining that with Public Administration classes required in college, I became interested in the issues in Charlotte. Then, becoming involved with the RV Ordinance issue in town, I found myself considering further involvement with the Council and Planning Commission.

Like everyone, I am concerned about the conditions of our city streets. About the vacancy of our main street store fronts. About the increasing vandalism and mischief over and above what we might consider normal for teenagers and young adults. And about the cleanliness and condition of some of our neighborhoods.

I have taken up that issue by organizing the Prairie Street Homeowners Association, which I have discussed with our Mayor and Chief of Police with positive results.

Creating a pleasant and inviting appearance, knowing the streets are safe, making the corridors into the City appealing, the continued events like Frontier Days, Celebrate Charlotte, and The Expo, to name a few, will result in creating an environment that draws visitors and new residents to Charlotte and are vital to community growth.

Although lacking any prior official government service, I feel my maturity, my education, and my business experience qualify me to fill the vacancy on the City Council. I believe I can contribute to the operation of City of Charlotte.

I, therefore respectfully, ask the Honorable Mayor and Charlotte City Council to add my name to the list of candidates vying to fill the seat vacated by Councilman Bahmer.

Thank You,



Ned E. Dills