

The Labrador Party

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My name is Alan McHugh and I am running in the upcoming election for the position of Trustee.

First, let me introduce myself. I have a BA in economics from Hobart College and a MBA in Finance from NYU. My professional background is in finance. I spent the first 18 years of my career in the international mining sector. More recently I worked for several large commercial and investment banks building out their commodity businesses. Throughout my career I have had bottom-line responsibilities for managing and building businesses, which included creating and implementing business plans, allocating capital, and managing and developing people. In addition, I have been the point person in negotiating long-term contracts with government agencies, both domestically and internationally. As a result, I have a core competency in finance, which leads to my interest in helping the Village with its budget issues. Now that I have retired from the commodity business, I am in a position to give back through civil service to the community that has meant so much to me these past two decades.

I have been a resident of Tuxedo Park for over 20 years. My wife Jeannie and I have been full-time residents for the past 8 years. Tuxedo Park holds special memories for me, as it was where my wife and I first met and where we were later married.

Over the past three years I have regularly attended Board of Trustee meetings and kept abreast of Village issues. What prompts to me to run is the realization that we cannot continue along the financial path we are currently following. Borrowing from Peter to pay Paul must end. The Village's unallocated surplus, which has been used to balance previous budgets, has been whittled away to a 26-year low. In my opinion, renewal of the Police and DPW contracts must take center stage in 2016. Although both groups are important to the quality of our life in Tuxedo Park, some of their benefits have grown out of proportion to what those in the private sector receive and even what similar villages offer their public employees. In addition, I believe we should draw on the expertise of our community members to help find solutions to problems beyond the day-to-day running of the Village. For example, we have experienced community members who could consult with our elected officials on engineering issues pertaining to the Wee-Wah Dam, renegotiating municipal contracts, analyzing water distribution, and a host of other items. By enlisting the services of our community members who have such expertise when these issues arise, we can proactively manage our infrastructure in an efficient and cost-effective way.

Greater accountability and oversight is needed to protect our financial future. If you feel similarly, please consider voting for me in the upcoming election. If you disagree, I hope you will engage in a public dialogue and share your views. While I have certain viewpoints, I promise always to listen and give serious consideration to all opinions. At the end of the day, we all want the same thing: a financially healthy Tuxedo Park for ourselves and our children. I hope you will join me in a constructive dialogue to determine the most effective way to achieve that goal.

If you have questions about my positions on Village issues, please call me at the number above. With your support, I look forward to building an even better Tuxedo Park for our families and children.

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