

Fire Commissioner Candidates Share Views

Voters in the Lansing Fire District will go to the polls on Tuesday, December 10th to choose one member of the five-person Board of Fire Commissioners for a five year term. Balloting will take place from 4:00-9:00 pm at Central Fire Station on Ridge Rd., South Lansing and at Fire Station # 5 on Oakcrest Rd in the Village of Lansing. Both candidates were invited by the Lansing Community News to submit statements in support of their candidacies.

By Dennis J. Griffin

I am writing this article to inform the public of my reasons for interest in being reelected as a Lansing Fire Commissioner. My interest in the fire service began in 1972 when I joined Ithaca Fire Department as a Boy Scout explorer. In 1974, I became an active line member with them and remained active until 1976 when I joined Lansing Fire Department. While a member of Lansing Fire Department, I served as a Captain, Lieutenant, ambulance attendant, Assistant Chief, Chief and for the last five years, as a Fire Commissioner. In 1991-1993, I represented Lansing Fire Department on Tompkins County Fire & Emergency Medical Services) EMS advisory board.

My goals if reelected to the Board of Fire Commissioners are:

- 1) Keep the tax rate affordable,
- 2) Work on better communication between the residents and officials of both the Village and Town and the Board of Fire Commissioners,
- 3) Maintain a 5-10 year-plan with room for adjustments with the growth in the Town and Village and with public concerns. In the past 5 years, I have felt there's a communi-



cation barrier between the Board of Fire Commissioners and the general public. If reelected, I will try my hardest to try to decrease this barrier and bring the entire community of Lansing together as a whole.

4) Thank you for your generous support over the years that I have served our community. I look forward to serving you for another five years. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 533-4575.



By Larry S. Cooper



I would like to introduce myself to the taxpayers of Lansing Fire District. My name is Larry S. Cooper, I live at 123 Armstrong Road, Lansing, and have lived there for 17 years. I am married and have 4 daughters. I retired from the police service after 25 years, 18 of which were at the rank of sergeant. While in the police department I was not allowed to hold any elected position. Now is the time for me to get involved. The position of fire commissioner is attractive and interesting for my volunteer interest in my community. If elected I will strive to represent all taxpayers in the Lansing fire district in a fair and equal way. It's time for responsible and responsive government, especially in today's economy and changing times. Public safety is an important service to the residents and should be supported, but tempered with a concern for the taxes that are needed to supply that service. I will, if elected, welcome all opinions from fire district residents so that I can make an informed decision relating to the fire commissioners responsibilities. I am an independent thinker and have a concern for the community. As a taxpayer I want to make sure our taxes are spent wisely, obtaining the best possible services for the dollars. Volunteer fire service people deserve the best possible equipment and fire gear to assure their safety and to assure the best possible service to the public they serve.

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