

**IVI-IPO 2006 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEMAN QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1**

DATE 1-12-06 TOWNSHIP: Proviso PARTY: Democratic

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Janet Gilbert

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 1564 NUMBER REQUIRED: 1564

*Please use an additional sheet to complete the following background information:*

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.

7<sup>th</sup> Representative District State Rep, first elected 2000, reelected 2002 and 2004

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

State Representative 1998, Proviso Township Committeeman 2002

C) What is your primary occupation?

Independent Insurance Agent, CEO Hathaway Insurance

D) Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.

Maywood Chamber of Commerce President; board member United Way of Suburban Chicago; board member of Oak Park YMCA; Board member of Way Back Inn; Founder of Maywood's live theater; board member of Fred Hampton Scholarship Fund; member of Maywood Youth Mentoring program

E) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

Masters degree in inner city studies from Northeastern Illinois; insurance and real estate professionally has shaped legislative agenda, discrimination and fraud

F) What candidates have you supported? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

Cong. Davis all 5 terms; ran Barack Obama candidate in western suburbs

G) Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

Congressman Davis, Mayors from Maywood, Forest Park, Bellwood, Broadview and Westchester; VIP party in Brookfield, SEIU, Teamsters

**H)** As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

My belief is independent, progressive, democratic politics will benefit the local Democratic party. Proviso Township has the second largest number of Democrats in suburban Cook County. The present “machine” party is stagnant, out of touch and beholden to downtown interests, rather than to the Proviso Democrats. The most important goals are to broaden the leadership base of Proviso Dems, increase voter registration particularly in Latino districts and to up turnout in general elections.

**I)** What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

Approximately \$50,000 to run two contests, I have raised about half of it.

**J)** How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

Volunteer campaign staff has ten people. We have more than 250 people on our volunteer list.

## **IVI-IPO 2006 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEMAN QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2**

1. Currently, there is no provision in the law for replacing a ward or township Committeeman who leaves office during her/his term. Should there be such a mechanism and, if so, what mechanism should exist?

I am not prepared at this time to support putting into place a mechanism for replacing a committeeman who leaves office during the term. It is something I will discuss after March 21.

2. What are your views on slating, the selection of candidates by the party or party committees prior to a primary or non-partisan elections? If you are opposed to slating, will you participate in slating sessions?

I am not a proponent of slating—particularly having to go along with a decision on a candidate who does not share my values, vision or position on issues. Two recent examples were Dan Hynes and Pat Levar, who the present Proviso Committeeman supported over Barack Obama and Dorothy Brown. He did not follow the dictates of his community. I plan to operate as a voice for the people.

3. Does a committeeman have a responsibility to support the party's candidates after they have been selected in a primary election?

No

4. What could improve the current operation of the central committee of your party's Cook County organization?

I am not in a position to address that issue at this point.

5. What is your position on the current slate of your party's County organization?

I have no position. I am totally concentrating on my own election.

6. Have you or would you send letters to government officials soliciting jobs or promotions for individuals?

Under no circumstances.

7. Have you formed or would you form a township organization? Discuss structure, meetings, membership, staff and budget.

After I am elected [sic] Proviso Township Democratic Committeeman, I will establish a township-wide assembly composed of individuals from each and every village. I will make sure that this group of Democrats is balanced racially, gender-wise and by age. We would meet monthly.

8. How do you propose to finance your township operations?

By voluntary contributions from those who support me and my concept of government

9. What plans do you have to enhance voter registration and voter turnout in your township?

They will be my priorities and the assembly will develop plans for both voter registration (and education) and turnout.