

**Nancy Rondel Candidate Statement** 

Harbor Springs has been my home for over 40 years. My husband and I raised our children here and owned a business for 30 years. I continue to work in the area and be active in many different ways in Harbor Springs. I am a RN that works with our older generation and I care deeply about our local residents. I serve on a non-profit board and am active in my church in leadership positions. At the present time I am finishing up my first term on the City Council of Harbor Springs. I serve on the Tree Board as the Council representative. I attend as many other city meetings as I can, especially the Planning Commission, ZBA and Parks and Recreation Board, because I know it is very important to be very well informed about the workings of my city. I would like to serve another term and continue to be a voice of reason, a good listener and a member that is willing to examine issues from many sides before making decisions.

There are a number of very important issues that Harbor Springs needs to address. The lack of housing in our community, the need for more reliable electricity, the lack of workers for businesses, people's unwillingness to communicate in an honest, respectful manner, the need to balance our expenses and revenue and the challenges that social media presents with disseminating inaccurate information. All of these issues will take work and cooperation on the part of the public, staff and elected officials to solve. We have to be willing to look for new solutions as well as learning from the past to make good decisions.

I have attended every Council meeting during my first term in office. I have learned that I can make a difference by being well informed and open to other points of view. My job

as a Council member is to make the best decision I can for the City of Harbor Springs. Individual's needs and wants are important to consider but I must act for the city as a whole when functioning as a member of Council.

Harbor Springs needs to be aware of what is needed to attract new year-round residents to our city. How can we bring in more families, more small businesses and people that are committed to living full time in our city? It is important to have activities that are for our visitors but we must also be committed to taking care of our full-time residents. Where are the barriers in our codes and policies that make it difficult to open a new business or build a home that works for your family? What can we do to make this city more friendly to our elderly? Do residents have the services they need? Are the services and businesses here to support year-round living for all ages of people? The first step is to ask the important questions.

My door is always open to have a respectful and honest discussion with the people of Harbor Springs and the surrounding communities. My email and phone numbers are accessible. I am happy to set up in-person meetings. Harbor Springs is my home and I am out and about in our community. I subscribe to the local paper and stay very current on what is going on around Harbor Springs. I will not use social media to have important communications with people or to discuss an issue at any length. I believe a face to face meeting is much more productive.

Please do your research before November 8th. Make sure that the sources you are using to become familiar with the candidates are accurate. If you have questions about issues in Harbor Springs go to a reliable source for your answer. Most importantly, make sure to vote.

Thank you, Nancy Rondel