



MTA-PAC MEMBERS:		
Joanne Boehler, Chair <i>James Township Treasurer</i>	Bill Gadwau, Member <i>Central Lake Township Trustee</i>	Linda Preston, Member <i>Pokagon Township Supervisor</i>
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Yo Bellingar, Member <i>Morton Township Clerk</i>	Doug Merchant, Member <i>Arcada Township Supervisor</i>	Cindy Sink, Member <i>Marshall Township Clerk</i>

May 18, 2010

FROM: *Prek Olson, Candidate
State Rep 35*

Dear Legislative Candidate:

The Michigan Townships Association's Political Action Committee (MTA-PAC) would like to congratulate you on your candidacy.

Formed in 1982, MTA-PAC exists to assist in the nomination and/or election of candidates who are responsive to local government issues and concerns. Having a membership of over 6,500 local elected officials across the state and townships in virtually every House and Senate district, the endorsement of MTA-PAC is often a key to victory.

The Michigan Townships Association Political Action Committee is in the process of reviewing candidates and considering endorsements for those running for the state Legislature. It is important that any endorsement goes to an individual who believes in the message we strive to convey to the Legislature.

What we need from you:

So that the committee can make a most-informed decision, please respond to the questions on the enclosed questionnaire and mail or fax it to MTA by **Monday, June 14, 2010**. In addition, any **background information on you, your campaign materials, electability, financial resources and other endorsements you have received would be very helpful to the committee.**

Should you have any questions concerning MTA-PAC's process, please contact Tom Frazier at (517) 321-6467 or tom@michigantownships.org.

Thank you for your time.

1 see <http://voiceforthepeople.net>

Sincerely,

2 I have the best experience having worked in business most of my life, went to Stanford Law School to be a better business manager & worked for the Washington State Legislature for 3 sessions & Governor's office for 1 year before returning to business. And, NO ONE WILL OUTWORK ME, DURING OR AFTER ELECTIONS.

2010 MTA-PAC Committee

Enclosure

3 I have access to ample finances through the primary; I will need help for the General Election

4 None yet sought, but am likely to receive endorsement from Michigan Farm Bureau and others in Business Coalition

**MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
2010 ELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Name: Rick Olson

House District: 55

Rick Olson - The Voice for the People
(Candidate Committee Name)

Phone: 734-944-0794

E-mail address: OLSON48176@COMCAST.NET

(PLEASE CIRCLE YES OR NO)

- YES ? 1. Under the theory of providing government reform, legislation was previously introduced to transfer the traditional township functions of tax collections, elections and assessing to the county. Do you feel that these services are more appropriately conducted by county government than township government?
NO ' *IN SOME CASES, YES, OTHER CASES, NO.*
- YES ? 2. Would you support legislation that moves zoning and planning decisions away from the township level?
NO ' *I like local control. However, multiple decision making bodies at various levels makes Michigan a less business friendly state.*
- YES ? 3. Townships have seen over 90% of their statutory revenue sharing eliminated in less than a decade due to state budget cuts. Do you support recommitting the state to the sharing of state sales tax revenues with local governments in the form of statutory revenue sharing?
NO ' *Depends on the form proposed. I do favor an increase & stabilization of local revenues sharing.*
- YES ? 4. Current law states that an election shall be held on the consolidation of two townships if a petition is filed containing the names of at least 5% of the registered voters of each of the townships to be consolidated. Some have proposed that consolidation elections should instead be initiated by the state through recommendations made by the State Boundary Commission for townships with less than 3,000 residents. Would you support such a change in law?
NO ' *That does not sound too bad. We do have too many governmental units in Michigan compared with other states.*
- YES 5. There have been several budget proposals at the Capitol in recent years to consolidate law enforcement efforts in Michigan. This has caused debate about whether county sheriff's departments or the Michigan State Police (MSP) can more efficiently provide services. Would you support efforts to cut funding for MSP road patrols?
NO ' *I am for the most efficient & effective means of road patrol - It probably is less costly in some places w/ State Police & County in*
- YES 6. Would you support efforts to increase term limits for all state offices (i.e. members of the Legislature, Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State and Attorney General) to 12 years?
 NO *others.*
- YES 7. As a cost saving measure, would you support efforts to allow local units of government to post legal notices on their Web sites rather than publishing in a local newspaper of general circulation?
NO ' *I am for Gov, Lt Gov, S of S, & AG. I like the 14 year limit proposed by the Bipartisan Caucus for legislators*
- YES 8. Would you support the expansion of the state sales tax to most services (excluding business to business and health care transactions)?
NO ' *After major cost control & structural reform & severe reduction or elimination of MBT. I could support a revenue neutral shift to services.*
- YES 9. Would you support an increase to the state gas tax to provide more funding for the state's transportation system?
NO ' *Shift to services.*
- YES 10. Would you support annexation reform legislation that would standardize the process under which property within the township can be annexed away to the neighboring city and allow the residents of both the city and township to vote on the proposed annexation?
NO ' *Sounds reasonable on its face.*
- YES 11. Recall attempts against local officials have become commonplace throughout our state. Instead of facing an up or down vote to remain in office, would you support recall reform legislation that would allow those facing recall to run for election again during their term of office against other nominated individuals similar to what occurs in Wisconsin and some other states?
NO ' *↓*

Name: Rich Olson

House District: 55

- YES
 NO
12. Would you support legislation requiring mobile homes located inside mobile home parks to pay property taxes in the same manner as all other property? *I believe in parity.*
- YES
 NO
13. Legislation has been introduced to impose a statewide tipping fee of \$7.50 per ton on all trash going into Michigan landfills. Would you support such a fee to help curtail the amount of out-of-state and out-of-country trash deposited into Michigan landfills? *Not if it would grossly INCREASE THE cost to all homeowners & businesses.*
- YES
 NO
14. If you support the above tipping fee, would you support returning the revenue generated to local units of government on a per-capita basis for recycling and other waste reduction services?
I would see this as a hidden tax increase, so don't like it.
- YES
 NO
15. The Michigan Legislature has enacted a renewable portfolio standard that would require public utilities to either purchase or produce a certain percentage of their power from renewable energy sources. Would you support legislation that would pre-empt local zoning related to the siting of wind turbines?
with opportunity for local input.
- YES
 NO
16. Would you support an effort to reduce the compensation of all public servants (state, local, school and university) by five percent for the next three years to address budget shortfalls? *I support the concept of getting control of public employee wages & benefits. Not sure on this specific idea.*
- YES
 NO
17. Do you support Proposal 1 on the November 2010 ballot calling for a state constitutional convention?
- YES
 NO
18. Do you support legislative efforts to limit government employers to paying no more than eighty percent of the average cost for health care insurance per covered employee?
- YES
 NO
19. Would you support efforts to implement early voting in Michigan where voters could vote at their township or city hall or at other locations starting 21 days before each election?
- YES
 NO
20. Do you support no-reason absentee voting?
- YES
 NO

Explanations of answers or additional comments that you wish the MTA-PAC Committee to be aware of:

Most issues are more complex than answerable with YES or NO. My experience would allow me to understand issues in depth, listen to all sides, weigh pros & cons and decide. I don't make knee jerk decisions OR DECISIONS JUST BECAUSE SOME SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP PRESSURES ME. GIVE ME FACTS & REASONS AND I MAY SUPPORT YOUR PROPOSALS