

## Emahiser, Bonnie

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**From:** Anthony Dantonio <djda@prodigy.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 5:03 AM  
**To:** Emahiser, Bonnie  
**Subject:** DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY ELECTIONS AND PRIMARIES

Dear Ms. Emahiser:

I would appreciate it if you would read this correspondence before city Council at their next meeting and provide them with a copy prior to the meeting.

Thanks,

Dick D'Antonio  
Former Ward 3 Councilman  
Retired Assistant Service Director

To the members of Stow City Council:

It has been interesting to read about the election changes being proposed by some members of Council, including the possibility of eliminating primaries. I would like to share some of the history and reasons for our existing election process and their timelines.

The main reason we have primaries dates back to 1971, when we did not have a primary, and we had 7 candidates running for mayor. it turned out to be a political free-for-all. Because of all the interest, the candidates night was held in a school gym, I believe it was Kimpton, in order to accommodate a standing- room -only crowd.

Roger Howard won the General Election with 2062 votes or 32% of the vote. The other candidates were: C.Paul Hutchison, who later became mayor, 1695 votes; David Hack, 1695 votes, Former Sow Councilman Jim Bliss, 1137 votes; Donald Powell, who later was appointed as mayor, 1011 votes; George Adamrovich, a resident, 229 votes; Julius Hader who i believe was a member of council at that time, 209 votes and, Charles Pulskamp a resident and owner of Kamper's Chicken in Munroe Falls, 97 votes.

Primaries were established after that election fiasco.

Regarding early versus late primaries, like we now have...

We use to have early primaries but they were changed because our residents were tired of months of political activity, literature and campaigning. The early primary date also created a lot of obvious campaigning on the council floor and in committee meetings. Critical votes were often delayed to minimize negative voter impact.

Also, when you consider an earlier primary date, please remember that our city-wide landscape will probably be covered with political signs for many more months that usual.

This might be the time to embrace the adages of "If it's not broke don't fix it" and "you some times have to spend money to make it right".

Good luck in your deliberations!

Dick D'Antonio

Sent from my iPad  
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