

# Meet S'fields Charter Candidates

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 5)

**S. JAMES CLARKSON**  
Clarkson, of 2325 1/2 Valley View, is a member of the State Bar Taxation committee and Michigan State Bar Grievance committee. He is also a member and officer of Southfield VFW Post 9052 and a member of the Detroit Bar Association. He is a candidate for State representative in 1952.

**AM FOR:**  
"1) Home rule city government for Southfield."  
"2) Strong council-city manager form of government, since 1951."  
"3) Election of city clerk and treasurer."  
"4) Differential taxation with five-mill limitation."  
"5) Separation of city planning commission and board of zoning appeals with mandatory area representation in both bodies."  
"6) Class hearings and cooperation with all subdivision and area organizations in the township, for acceptance or rejection of their views after published hearings thereon," said Clarkson.

**HOWARD A. PALMER**  
Palmer has lived with his family at 4721 Beaman since 1951. He is a certified public accountant with a national accounting firm, and is actively engaged in governmental work.  
"Densely populated areas cannot adequately be protected and served unless we provide government capable of doing it. An incorporated form of government is the only solution to the growing needs of our community and adoption of a charter would assure us, through the years, of proper planning and efficient operation at the least cost."  
"ANY PROPOSED charter should provide for protection and serving with an administrative head having proper academic training, experience as a city manager, election of only those persons whose responsibility it is to establish policy, such as a council, maximum tax limitation of \$5 per \$1,000 of assessed value for current operations as well as bonded indebtedness which will allow taxpayers to increase millage through charter amendment when demand for services makes an increase necessary; all representatives to be at large."  
"If elected to the charter commission I would be receptive to any modification of the above which the majority of people desire, providing it is in the best interest of all the people regardless of the area in which they live," said Palmer.

**THOMAS M. COSTELLO**  
Costello and his family live at 2746 Lexington Parkway. A practicing attorney in Wayne and Oakland counties in association with Forritt, Freud, Toppin and Louissell law firm, Costello is a former member and Detroit Bar Associations, serving on the latter's legislative committee. Formerly an anti-trust lawyer, Costello was a candidate for the last council election, placing fourth in a field of 11. He is active in Cambridge Village Civic Association and church affairs.  
"I am opposed to the prior charter. Costello proposes that the new charter provide:  
1. RIGID restrictions on Council's taxing power, allowing no major tax increases except by vote of the people.  
2. Elect as many public officials as feasible, including clerk and treasurer.  
3. Zoning law should be inaugurated to protect Southfield's highly residential nature and cope with population increases.  
4. Terms of office set for two years with staggered election of council.  
5. Provide a city manager, giving council opportunity to employ a well-trained person, academically and by experience."

"As a charter is written for Southfield it would be well to preserve as much as possible of what we have by law and ordinance. In addition to be good for the community, in this game of fantastic development, it is definitely our next move," said Walton.

**SYLVESTER T. TAFELSKI**  
Tafelski is married and owns his home at 2810 Samost Trail. A tool and industrial engineer, he received his education at Lawrence Institute of Technology and Detroit College of Applied Science. A Southfield resident since 1949, Tafelski has been treasurer and board of directors member of Oakland Village Civic Association for the past three years.  
"I favor strong city manager type of government with the city manager responsible for city departments, which should come under civil service, with exception of clerk and treasurer. The city attorney should be responsible to the council and act as legal advisor to the council and manager."  
"I FAVOR area representation by five equally divided areas and a mayor elected at large. This by vote of each area equal representation regardless of population. All elected officials should serve a two-year term."  
"I am against city-wide assessments for improvements which only benefit a minority group. A five-mill limit (state equalized) should be placed on our tax rate. Any necessary increase should be by vote of the people. Taxing funds received should be used for road maintenance only."  
"The council can be placed on zoning and minimum residential lot sizes established. Cost of building new schools should be offset cost of new schools needed due to population increase."  
"The council can meet with civic associations and groups of interested citizens to discuss their wishes in regard to new charter. Any advice obtained from these groups will be appreciated," Tafelski concluded.

**JOHN S. HOLMES**  
Holmes, 47, is married and has lived at 18470 Westhaven for five years. He attended University of Pittsburgh, Gettysburg college and Robert Morris School of Accounting. Employed for 15 years as controller for a Detroit machine tool manufacturer, Holmes has been a member of the Westland Civic Association. He was president of Save Our Southfield and Southfield Urban Association, where he was responsible for filing of the petitions for Southfield incorporation.  
"I believe:  
"1) A tax limitation to provide adequate required services but no excessive additional ceilings for the future.  
"2) Two year terms for city councilmen with staggered terms of office.  
"3) A STRONG city manager type of government is best suited for Southfield.  
"4) Area representation can be compromised by having both area representation and city councilman at large.  
"5) Incorporation of zoning and civil service into the new charter should be carefully considered since adoption in this manner would be a maximum tax increase on only those persons whose responsibility it is to establish policy, such as a council, maximum tax limitation of \$5 per \$1,000 of assessed value for current operations as well as bonded indebtedness which will allow taxpayers to increase millage through charter amendment when demand for services makes an increase necessary; all representatives to be at large."  
"If elected to the charter commission I would be receptive to any modification of the above which the majority of people desire, providing it is in the best interest of all the people regardless of the area in which they live," said Palmer.

**MARY J. SWANSON**  
Mrs. Swanson, 34, lives with her husband and four children at 2408 Pennsylvania drive. She attended Wayne University for three years. Her community activities include membership and offices in school and PTA, church and political organizations.  
"Because of its high quality residential areas and the high educational level of its citizens, I believe strongly in Southfield and its future. Properly planned and governed, it has the potential of one of the finest cities in the country. Having closely observed the making of the first charter, I am aware that areas of compromise must be found if the second charter is to pass.  
"I would suggest the following provisions be considered:  
"1) cut the previously proposed tax limitation in half.  
"2) adequate representation for all Southfield citizens.  
"3) two year terms for elected officials.  
"4) provisions for maintaining the present residential character of the community."  
"If elected, I will work toward these goals," concluded Mrs. Swanson.

**J. LEO WALTON**  
Walton, Southfield resident for 30 years, is head of Western high school's science department in Detroit and a special instructor at Wayne University. He was graduate of Central Michigan college and holds a master's degree in physics from Wayne University. Charter member and past president of Southfield Kiwanis club and volunteer on the fire department which formed the nucleus of the present Southfield fire department. Walton currently represents Southfield on special events committee for the Oakland county zoning program.  
"We are paying 90 per cent of Oakland county's taxes and are represented by one member on a 12-member board of supervisors. We need only adopt a city charter to correct this injustice."  
"SOUTHFIELD, located between the huge industrial area of Detroit on the south and a chain of lakes and parks linked into a huge recreational area on the north, has ideal facilities for a residential area. Containing the largest shopping center in the world and combined with the fact that Detroit will soon be a world port it is evident that expansion and development is already underway and should reach enormous proportions."  
"If we are to preserve the area as we unit, maintain a residential community and keep stable with office forces nearby, then we should have advantages of training and experience available thru city manager type of government."

**RUSSELL H. CULLEN**  
Cullen, his wife and six children live at 18271 Beverly road. Born in Washington, D. C. in 1917, he studied engineering at Maryland University and George Washington University. He has served in each Active in PTA, Boy Scouts, and CYO clubs. Cullen is currently chairman of Beverly Road Association.  
"Major points of contention seem to be:  
"1) Governmental organization—Term of office should be two years with the person receiving the highest vote being mayor for the full two years.  
"2) City manager—Council should appoint the city manager who should have complete control of all administrative offices but be answerable for his actions to council.  
"3) Taxation—Present tax rate should be carried over into city government and any additional tax burden should be voted. Further, the tax base also grows. No one has yet explained to me why city government should be responsible for the tax base. If it is, provided additional services are not demanded.  
"4) Special assessment areas could be set up for any particular locality that felt additional services were required.  
"5) Breaking the township into a number of small cities would, in the long run, prove more costly form of government because of duplication of services. As the area grows, its tax base also grows. Its portion of sales and gas tax increases so it will have more money for carrying on without increasing taxes. If elected, I will spend taxpayers' money as a prudent steward. As head of a family of six children, good financial management is a prime requisite," Cullen said.

**RAY MCLEOD**  
Ray McLeod, 39, was born and reared in Michigan and is a graduate draftsman of Arthur Hill (now in high school) in Saginaw. He has been employed by Detroit Engine division of General Motors Corp. for 14 years and for the past five years has been a senior technical writer and service tool engineer. He has been a Southfield property owner and resident nine years.  
"I feel that for the charter to prove successful, parts that affect our everyday living should be with approval of our citizens before the charter is allowed to come to an official vote."  
"AS A candidate I believe it is the duty of the charter commission with civic cooperation with civic organizations of our community. Only in this manner can a commission receive and act on the wishes of our citizens."  
"If electors of Southfield select me as a candidate for the charter commission, I promise to work in cooperation with civic organizations and give the type of government that meets with approval of the people," said McLeod.

**HENRY M. DEMEYER**  
Mr. Meyer, 43, is manager of budget and general accounting department, Continental Division, Ford Motor Co. A graduate of Buffalo University and DePaul University of Chicago, De Meyer is a member of the Southfield township board, president of Oakland Village Civic Assn, Southfield Community Council secretary, member of Reifford Avenue Presbyterian church, and is active in Detroit chapter, National Association of Cost Accountants. He, his wife, Kay, and their daughters, Sandy, 13, and Betsy, 10, live at 2102 1/2 Glenview.  
"De Meyer stated he is in favor of: minimum tax rate; strong city manager type of government; improvements—water, sewer—to be assessed on basis of use; no special assessment areas for lot widths; a restrictive charter that leaves major decisions on government policies and expenditures in the hands of voters; and during writing of the charter, issue weekly bulletins to all civic associations as to action taken."

**ESTHER B. GREENFIELD**  
Mrs. Greenfield of 26000 Ravine road received a BA degree from Wayne University and has lived in Detroit and Southfield 20 years.  
"I am in favor of: minimum tax rate; strong city manager type of government; improvements—water, sewer—to be assessed on basis of use; no special assessment areas for lot widths; a restrictive charter that leaves major decisions on government policies and expenditures in the hands of voters; and during writing of the charter, issue weekly bulletins to all civic associations as to action taken."

tem to protect government employees.  
"I also believe in area representation whereby all sections of Southfield will be directly represented in city government. The citizens should protect Southfield citizens in their right to determine their governing body through democratic processes. If elected, I would invite all township organizations to present their views as to what should be included in a charter," Elsarrelli said.

**PATRICK G. FLANNERY**  
Flannery, 38, is a World War II veteran of the Pacific campaign. He has three years training in business administration and law and is presently manager of Planney Residential Policy. Property owner and taxpayer of Southfield for 14 years, Flannery lives at 23532 Noel drive with his wife and five children.  
"The Washington Village Civic Association, of which I am a member, advocates a city manager to constitute my platform. They are:  
"1) No increase in taxes unless by majority vote of the taxpayers.  
"2) No change in present zoning regulations to be made by majority vote of property owner in the subdivision affected.  
"3) A charter provision to define the method of property assessment and to provide a minimum tax rate.  
"4) A seven-man council consisting of a representative from each of six areas and a mayor elected from the entire area. The term of office shall be of a two year duration.  
"5) Provisions shall be made for adequate zoning. The zoning board shall consist of one member for each area appointed by the councilman and the seventh member to be appointed by the entire council."  
"6) A MINIMUM shall be established for lot and home size to protect the area from the 50-foot lot.  
"7) All utilities such as, sewers, water, shall be paid for by a voted special assessment against the area served. This tax assessment to be collected on an area basis instead of assessed property value.  
"8) Provisions shall be made in the charter to prohibit home building unless there are adequate classroom facilities available for the children who will occupy the home," their statement concluded.

**WILL J. OLIVER**  
Oliver, retired, was born near Alpena in 1887. After Army service he graduated from Purdue University in 1921 with a B.S.M.E. degree. He has lived in Southfield 10 years and for 15 years has been a school board member, serving as member and president of John Grace board prior to consolidation, and treasurer of the Southfield School Board since. He was one of the organizers of Little League and Babe Ruth League baseball in Southfield, and is now vice president of the latter. Oliver is institutional representative and one of the organizers of Boy Scout Troop S-2.  
"I believe that transition from township to city should be gradual; that public has faith and trust in present township government which cannot be ignored; and that the possibility of a radical change in personnel would engender fear in the mind of the voter. I also believe that taxes should be limited to little more than the budget requirements for the coming year and that the whole area should be one ward," said Oliver.

**MARVIN R. MARSH**  
**ARTHUR WILDE**  
**THEODORE E. DOUGHERTY**  
Marvin R. Marsh, 19041 Beethoven, Theodore E. Dougherty, 32840 Wentworth, and Arthur Wilde of 23545 Wentworth submitted a joint statement for publication.  
"The three said they are opposed to incorporation but have filed for charter commission to aid in the

**EDWARD A. ELSARELLI**  
Elsarelli, 45, is married and the father of eight children. He and his family live at 31700 Eastlady drive. A practicing attorney for 22 years following graduation from University of Detroit, Elsarrelli is presently a partner in the law firm of Wayne county for four years and is presently Southfield township's justice of the peace.  
"He drafted and worked for adoption of the present Southfield traffic ordinance whereby Southfield in deriving thousands of dollars formerly paid to the county. Elsarrelli said. He is engaged in private law practice in Detroit.  
"I BELIEVE in a charter which gives people of Southfield the right to elect all major offices, including clerk and treasurer, at large. There should be a tax limitation of five mills with an additional 10 mills subject to electorate approval.  
"Charter zoning provisions should not permit any abuses which are prevalent under present conditions. There should be a strong, effective civil service sys-

**ELIZABETH MOLNAR**  
Mrs. Molnar, of 25982 Rouge court, is a science teacher with B.A. and Master of Science degree. She has been active with various organizations in Southfield, government and community affairs.  
"My personal views regarding the incorporation are:  
"1) Multiple-ward system, area representation by precincts.  
"2) Election of clerk and treasurer.  
"3) Low tax limitation.  
"4) Two-year terms (staggered) for councilmen.  
"5) More adequately provide in the charter for zoning.  
"6) Appointments to zoning and other boards should be made from candidates selected by vote of the people.  
"7) Provide for improved communications between the public and the government," Mrs. Molnar concluded.

moved to Southfield township. I watched my children grow up here as I watched the township grow. In 1940 it was farm area with 5,000 people. Now it has over 30,000 people. I have seen the schools change from country to consolidated A rating.

"NOW WE must face problems that require definite planning and a city form of government. This will prevent wasteful duplication of needed facilities.  
"As a city, bonds are available for longer periods of time at better rates. Thus new people and businesses that move into the township in the next 20 years will share in payment of improvements.  
"I advise electing the clerk and treasurer, better zoning, fair representation; and overall planning for the future," Mrs. Greenfield concluded.

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April 12, 1956 THE BIRMINGHAM ECENTRIC Page 3

**Bloomfield 4-H Club Wins 10 Honorable Mention Awards**  
BLOOMFIELD—Spring achievement day of the Bloomfield 4-H club was held together with all clubs in Oakland county April 7 at the Lincoln Junior high school, Pontiac.  
The Bloomfield club received a record ten honorable mentions given to Susan Robinson and Denny Robertson in the food division, Doug Norland in electrical, July Eastburn, Laura Szymke and Sharon Brodie in clothing, Paul Norland, Lois Taylor, Carol Brodie and Sarah Snyder in handicraft.  
Selected to take their projects to the annual High State Fair at East Lansing were Doug Norland, Susan Szymke, Paul Norland and Sarah Snyder. Style review prizes were awarded to July Eastburn and Laura Szymke.  
The club received two special awards, one from the Pontiac North Kiwanis club for a first place project in handicraft and one from the electrical exhibit from the Detroit Edison company.

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**2 Small Plats Get Township Approval**  
BLOOMFIELD TWP.—Township board approved two small plats at Monday night's meeting.  
One was the former Harbison property on Adams near Wattlewale road, about 20 acres owned by John Harrison, and the other was a 13-acre plat for Frankel brothers, located just south of their Franklin Woods development along Franklin road north of 14 Mile.

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Wide pine-planked Living Room... 19 by 22 plus bay... freepace...  
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First floor Laundry... storage cupboards of every kind... polished brick floors.

2 super-fine Bedrooms on the first floor...  
2 complete Baths... immense wardrobes.

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Bloomfield Village taxes and school.

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