

TARA BLACK PEARSON ANNOUNCES HER CANDIDACY AS REPRESENTATIVE FROM DISTRICT 6 OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Republican candidate Tara Black Pearson announced her campaign for the Livingston County Board of Commissioners Sixth District on Monday, April 22, 2024 saying *"I look forward to seeing some changes on the Board"*. Tara is a life-long resident of Livingston County. After graduating from Howell High School, Tara attended University of Michigan and Cleary University, earning a Bachelor's degree in Corporate Accounting. Tara then continued on to earn her Juris Doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School and is a full-time practicing attorney at the law firm she operates in Howell. Tara is the wife of a Marine and proud parent of two Western graduates.

Tara has been an active member in the Community throughout her life, volunteering in numerous roles with First Presbyterian Church of Howell, Howell Elks Lodge 2168, Howell American Legion Auxiliary, Howell Optimist Club, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, and the Robert and Maxine Parker Foundation. She has also supported our local libraries, Howell Nature Center, Gleaner's and Blue Star Service Dogs.

Tara is a third-generation native, with family graduates from Howell High School, Brighton High School, Pinckney High School, Hartland High School and Charyl Stockwell Academy.

"I am rooted in Livingston County", Tara says. *"As a life-long generational resident of Livingston County I have seen the changes in our Community, and there are decisions being made and actions being taken that are not in step with Livingston County values and traditions."* When asked about higher elective positions, she responded, *"My agenda is Livingston County as my home and the place I love, not Livingston County as the rung on a political ladder that I will only be looking down at later."*

As Commissioner for District 6, Tara hopes to bring common sense and dignity back to the Board, with a Board that concentrates on local government and not petty bickering and in-fighting, and partisan gamesmanship with budgeting decisions. *"The antics of some Board members are an embarrassment, and their micro-management of departments is not just a waste of resources, it degrades employee moral; there is a reason talented and loyal employees are retiring early or just leaving, and that those positions are not being successfully filled."*

Another glaring deficit Tara sees on the Board is that at least half of our Community has no representation. There are no Mothers or female small business owners on the Board. *"There has not been a woman on the Board in two (2) years, the Community cannot risk another four (4) years with no voice and perspective from such a significant part of our residents"*.

Tara also does not believe the taxpayers are receiving the full benefit of services to which they are entitled. In addition to disparate treatment in budgeting decisions that limit available services, Tara believes the failure of Board members to be cooperative and rational with other government entities negatively affects the allocation of services to Livingston County residents from State and Federal sources, such as not receiving more road funds from SEMCOG.

Tara believes her election as Livingston County Commissioner for District 6 will bring desperately needed changes to a Board that is defunct with petty and personal-minded agendas.