

Name: Richard Ihli
Seeking Office:
Rogers Mayor

Interview #3
Incumbent

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9/23/2022 - 10:30:00 AM

How long have you lived in your community?

27 years

Are you a Homeowner or Renter?

Owner

Do you own other real property (e.g. Business, Cabin, Investment, or Rental Property)? If so, which?

Do not

Describe your civic and/or community engagement.

I have server for 4 years planning commission, 4 years City Council and 4 terms or 8 years as Mayor.2000.

What is your fundraising goal? How much have you raised to date?

\$2,000.00 is my goal and have raised\$1,000.00.

Are you accepting PAC contributions?

Yes

Please list any notable supporters or groups of supporters for your campaign

Benzinger Homes, Kinghorn Construction.

What are the most important housing challenges facing your community?

We have several developers building properties in our community, we have over 1,400 available lots for homes in Rogers. Home building is robust in our city and surrounding area.

The Twin Cities Metro is facing a housing shortage unlike any we have experienced in recent history. What will you do to increase the number of homes available to residents of your community?

We are doing that as we speak, we have 4 major apartment complexes being constructed as we speak along with 4 major home building project be constructed with local and national builders.

Minnesota has one of the largest homeownership gaps between Whites and Blacks, Indigenous, and People of Color. This is one of MAR's primary concerns. What would you propose at the local level to close this home ownership gap?

Well as you know there is no such thing as a starter home. We actively search work force and senior housing for our community. We have a senior housing project in our community starting this fall. The major problem these days is there are very few local builders in our metro area, national builder lead the way in home construction. We seek out locals but the cost of land is prohibative for that to happen.

How do you think the city can best balance the rights of tenants and property owners to effectively manage rental housing?

As it currently stands we have no workforce housing being built in Rogers. They require State tax breaks to make it work and fill the construction funding shortfalls. We always work with the developers by aiding in the process with TIF we need workforce housing to help with filling the many jobs we have available in our city. We as a city are open to any and all offers.

What are your views on property tax rates in your community? Do you have concerns related to the city's property tax rate? If so, how would you address those concerns once elected?

Our tax rates remain the lowest compared to our neighboring cities. Actually one of the lowest in the metro area. Our low rates keep us more then competitive in the metro. Mostly 23% of the cities property tax bill.

Please provide links to all social media accounts connected to you or your campaign if any.

Am in the process of starting them up as we speak.

The Minneapolis Area Association of REALTORS(R) may plan to interview some candidates virtually, would you be willing to participate, if contacted?

Yes