

## **Mark Abbo Announces Bid for Northville Township Supervisor** *A Proven Leader For Our Community During Tough Times*

Northville Township – Mark Abbo today announced his candidacy for Northville Township Supervisor. Abbo previously served Northville Township as an elected official for over 20 years--eight years as a Trustee, and 12 years as Supervisor from 2000 through 2012.

“During my time as Township Supervisor we worked to establish fiscal stability, promoted and supervised responsible development, and took control of our destiny by securing institutional properties like the Scott Correction Facility and the former Psychiatric Hospital on 7 Mile,” said Abbo. “We accomplished a lot while we weathered the recession of 2008-2009, and put the township on solid footing that has sustained it since then.”

When Mark Abbo first joined the Board of Trustees, Northville Township’s fund balance was about \$200,000; which grew to an over \$14 million dollar fund balance by 2012 under his leadership. Additionally, when Abbo took office almost 3,000 acres--about 28%--of Northville Township’s land was used by various governmental agencies for institutional uses. Under Abbo’s leadership, the township was able to purchase various properties and successfully transform many locations into productive resources for the township.

Abbo stressed that the difficult times in which we find ourselves requires a proven crisis manager. “With the coronavirus pandemic we are once again facing economic uncertainty, and our community needs strong fiscal, responsible leadership,” he said.

Last week the Township Board of Trustees, under the direction of the current Supervisor, voted 6-1 to place a .5 mill tax increase on the August Primary ballot, with Trustee Mindy Herman being the sole board member in opposition. If approved, this proposal will result in a 7% tax increase for Northville Township residents.

“Many of us are worried about the health of our families, the loss of jobs and making ends meet. Now is not the time to propose tax increases--now is the time to tighten our belts and make financially sound decisions,” continued Abbo.

A CPA with over 30 years of top fiscal leadership in the private sector, Mark Abbo is offering his experience, education and conservative principals to help navigate Northville Township through the uncertainty of the COVID-19 crisis. Mark Abbo is the right person at the right time for Northville Township.

###

## MARK ABBO'S RECORD OF SERVICE INCLUDES

- **Eliminating government facilities and bringing properties to productive use.** Historically, almost 3,000 acres- about 28%- of Northville Township's land was used by various governmental agencies for institutional uses. During Abbo's years of service the township was able to purchase certain properties, including the Scott Correctional facility, and successfully transform many locations into productive resources for the township. For example, Arcadia Ridge – previously farmed as part of the prison program – consists of 248 single-family homes, 104 duplex units and 95.73 acres of dedicated open space. Other projects that have been productive for the township include 7 Mile Road west of Haggerty, and Sheldon Road at Five Mile Road.
- **Attracting High Tech Businesses to Northville Township.** During Abbo's tenure, Techno SemiChem, the leader in chemical and electronic materials in the semiconductor industry, IAV Automotive, Trelleborg, and Meidan Corporation were some companies that came to Northville Township's industrial corridor- a premier location for high tech business. Northville Township enjoyed growth in residential and commercial development during his tenure while enduring the economic downturn.
- **Providing citizens the ability to enjoy Northville's natural beauty.** Under Abbo's leadership, Northville Township teamed with county officials and developers to create the Coldwater Nature Preserve and the Sheldon Road pathway. Additionally, Abbo led the charge to purchase the former state hospital property and form a citizen's advisory group to develop the master plan for the property.
- **Defeating the attempt to annex 414 acres of land.** Faced with potential annexation of the northeastern part of the township by Livonia, a dispute that pitted neighbor against neighbor, Mark Abbo brought the community together and mobilized the fight for a common cause. As a result, the attempt to annex the property was defeated, and residents helped secure control of the acreage along 7 Mile Road.
- **Keeping taxes low while providing quality services.** Throughout the last recession, Mark took the necessary measures to help the township weather the economic storm. Under Abbo's direction, the Township was able to reduce expenditures without reducing the quality of services provided to residents.
- **Creating a smaller more efficient government by working with Northville Township's neighbors.** Long before Governor Snyder proposed government consolidation and shared services, Northville Township was ahead of the curve. Through agreements for Parks and Recreation with the City of Northville, joint dispatch for public safety, and with Plymouth Township and Wayne County creating a high tech industrial corridor along 5 Mile Road from Ridge to Napier, Abbo's administration was the model for communities to follow in tough economic times.
- **Developing the plan to eliminate Wayne County's substantial deficit following the recession.** As the Chief Financial Officer of the county in late 2013 through 2014, Mark's plan served as the blueprint for turning the county around, including unlocking access to over \$150 million in previously unavailable Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund dollars and selling off the county's wastewater treatment facilities- measures implemented by the successive administration. He also championed initiatives to help grow funding for the county's retirement system.