

**Questionnaire prepared by Christie Lake Association Inc.  
To Candidates for the October, 22, 2018 Election to TVT Council  
See also Footnotes on pages 2 & 3 of this Questionnaire**

**Responses from Beverley Phillips  
Candidate for Council – Burgess Ward**

1. How long have you resided in Tay Valley?  
Permanent resident since 2001. Property owner since 1983
2. What is your educational background?  
Graduated from University of Ottawa in 1984 as a mature student with a B.A. in Honours English and with credits in Business and Psychology.
3. Provide a brief synopsis of your work history. Be specific.  
Many years in private sector working in finance
4. What specific qualities and experience do you have that you believe qualify you to serve TVT residents as a Councillor?  
I know the importance of being dependable, being trustworthy, of listening, of weighing both sides of an issue, being respectful, of doing the homework, of being fair.
5. Why are you interested in running for Council at this time?  
I believe I have something to contribute. I am a fresh face with no political baggage and no hidden agendas
6. What do you feel your primary responsibility will be as a Councillor?  
To act with competence and common sense and to represent and support the people who elected me
7. Do you share, or identify with, the sentiment “Back off Government! This Land is Our Land!”?  
While I sympathize with rural land owners frustration towards government, I do not share the sentiment. No man is an island. The opposition to government regulation and protection of property rights may sound appealing but this involves the rest of society. People cannot expect to be treated exceptionally in every area of government policy that affects them regardless of the costs to others
8. In your opinion, does TVT have adequate regulations in place regarding Council and staff procedures, zoning by-laws, road infrastructure, waste disposal, etc.?

If not, please outline your 3 main concerns and the steps you propose to remedy those concerns.

Regulations appear to be in place but not all appear to be followed.

Example, garbage fine of approx. \$20K despite warnings, mess re harassment that has cost \$200K in legal fees

9. The Municipal Act requires municipalities to adopt policies to try to ensure that it is accountable to the public for its actions and that its actions are transparent to the public. **[See Footnote 1]** In your opinion, are TVT's policies adequate for those purposes? If not, please outline your 3 main concerns and the steps you propose to remedy those concerns.

At times transparency seems to be lacking & recording council meetings (video / audio) should address this

10. If TVT is required to adopt policies to try to ensure accountability, are you of the view that all votes other than unanimous votes, should be recorded so that voters will be able to ascertain who voted for and against each resolution or by-law?

Yes. All votes should be recorded

11. Does it concern you that TVT deals with an increasing number of matters in "closed sessions" which are not open to the public? If so, please outline the reason(s) for your concern(s) and the steps you propose to remedy those concerns.

Yes "closed sessions" concern me. They lack transparency. In camera meetings should only be held when dealing with personnel matters & matters involving such items as land purchases by the township.

12. In 2018, TVT passed bylaws containing policies and procedures for dealing with complaints by TVT residents against TVT staff, and *vice versa*. In each case, staff will investigate the complaints, decide the outcome of those complaints, and impose a range of sanctions or penalties, if complaints are upheld. The public is given no role in the investigative, decision-making, or penalty process. **[See Footnote 2]**

If a staff member investigates a claim by or against another staff member with whom the staff investigator works on a daily basis, should the public be concerned about bias in favour of TVT staff, or the appearance of such bias, in the complaint process. If so, please outline the steps you propose to remedy those concerns.

Absolutely. An arrangement could be made with another township to get an independent third party. Or use an integrity commissioner to intervene. Mediation is another avenue.

13. Based on the fact set out in **Footnotes 3 and 4** (which you should assume are correct), are you satisfied that the TVT tax expenditures for the 14 years from 2004 to 2017, both inclusive, are fair and reasonable having regard to:
- (a) the relatively large percentage of TVT residents aged 65 years and older, many of whom may be on fixed incomes; and
  - (b) changes in CPI, CPP retirement benefits, and GIC interest rates during the same period?

How could I be in favour. Population as not increased appreciably during this time, nor has the economic base. On the other hand government has ballooned. Two of my platforms a) reduce Council from eight to five members b) review senior administrative staff numbers & responsibilities & explore contracting some services or sharing with other municipalities

14. The derelict restaurant premises on Hwy 7 just west of Hwy 511 (last known as “Paros Island Restaurant” and once known as “Patterson’s Restaurant”) is located in Tay valley Township. It has been a community eyesore for more than 10 years and is getting worse every year.

Questions for incumbents: -

- (a) during your years on Council, what steps has Council taken to eliminate this blight on our community, and when were those steps taken?
- (b) What are the impediments, if any which prevent TVT from demolishing the building on the premises and either allowing the property to return to a state of nature, maintaining it as parkland or a recreational facility, or offering it for sale for commercial development?

Questions for all candidates:

- (c) What steps, if any, would you propose to eliminate this community eyesore?
- A zoning bylaw amendment to remove derelict buildings. Failing this, introduce a property standards by-law to have buildings repaired or demolished. Consider a grace period to waive cost of demolition permit.

### **Footnotes to Questions for Candidates**

Footnote 1

The Municipal Act , 2001, S.O. 2001., C 25 as amended, S. 270(1)

Footnote 2

Complaint Policy – Complaint made by member of the public regarding municipal facilities, operational procedures, programs, services, or staff.

<http://www.tayvalleytwp.ca/en/municipal-government/resources/By-Laws/Section-AD-2--Complaint---Policy.pdf>

Complaint policy- Complaint by municipal Staff against a member or member of the public in respect of Unreasonable Customer behavior.

<http://www.tayvalleytwp.ca/en/municipal-government/resources/By-Laws/Section-AD-3--Unreasonable-Customer-Behaviour---Policy.pdf>

#### Footnote 3

The 2016 Government of Canada Census Profile indicates that TVT seniors' population (aged 65 and over) represented 25.7% of TVT's total population on Census day whereas the provincial average was only 16.7%.

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=3509015&Geo2=CD&Code2=3509&Data=Count&SearchText=Tay%20Valley&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&TABID=1>

#### Footnote 4

In the 14 years from 2004 to 2017, TVT's tax expenditures have increased from \$2,716,700 to \$5,453,364 an increase of \$2,736,664 or 100.73% for an average annual increase of 7.2%.

*[Information obtained from TVT Budget Summaries for the years in question]*

By comparison, over those same 14 years:

CPI for Canada All Items on the 2002 base stood at 104.7 in 2004 and at 130.4 in 2018, an increase of 25.7 or 24.55%, for an average annual increase of 1.75% per year; <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1810000501>

CPP Maximum monthly retirement payments (without supplements) have increased from \$814.17 per year to \$1,114.17, an increase of 36.9% for an average annual increase of 2.64%

Average 5 year GIC rates paid by the major Canadian banks have **declined** from 2.53% to 1.01%.

[http://www.bankofcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/selected\\_historical\\_v122515.pdf](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/selected_historical_v122515.pdf)

Consequently, over same 14 years, TVT tax expenditures have increased:

4.1 times greater than the CPI index noted above;

2.7 times greater than CPP increases as noted above.

At the same time income generated from falling interest rates has **declined**.