

Municipal Election RESULTS **November 6, 2007**

Wow! What an interesting election this has turned out to be! They say that all politics are local and that has turned out to be more true than ever this year. Local politics played such a key role in this year's municipal elections that not too many pundits even believe it, especially in the case of Indianapolis. Wholesale change throughout the state to be sure!

The overall mood of the electorate going into Tuesday's elections was the wild card throughout Indiana. Who knew if - or how deep - the anti-incumbent dynamic would play? In many cases, it can be argued that voters were not necessarily voting FOR someone, but rather they were casting their ballot AGAINST an incumbent because of general unhappiness. This clearly strong anti-incumbent mood of Indiana's voting public is interesting as we head toward the 2008 elections.

In all, 119 Indiana Mayors were elected or re-elected to office on November 6, 2007. Additionally, Clerk Treasurers and City and Town Councils were elected in the 450-some towns throughout the state. Some communities, because there were no contested races, did not hold elections this year.

Breakdown for IMPA Member Communities - Mayor

Incumbents Mayors winning	=	12
Scottsburg (Mayor Bill Graham)		
Covington (Mayor Brad Crain)		
Richmond (Mayor Sally Hutton)		
Columbia City (Mayor Jim Fleck)		
Greendale (Mayor Doug Hedrick)		
Lawrenceburg (Mayor Bill Cunningham)		
Rising Sun (Mayor Bill Marksberry)		
Jasper (Mayor Bill Schmitt)		
Linton (Mayor Tom Jones)		
Gas City (Mayor Larry Leach)		
Peru (Mayor Jim Walker)		
Rensselaer (Mayor Herb Arihood)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Republicans• Democrats	=	4 8

Incumbent Mayors who lost	=	6
Anderson (Mayor Kevin Smith – R)		
Frankfort (Mayor Don Stock - R)		
Greenfield (Mayor Rodney Fleming – D)		
Tell City (Mayor Gayle Strassell – R)		
Huntingburg (Mayor Gail Kemp – R)		
Washington (Mayor Dave Abel –R)		
• Republicans	=	5
• Democrats	=	1

Open Offices (no incumbent running)	=	3
Lebanon (Mayor-Elect John Lasley – R)		
Crawfordsville (Mayor-Elect Charlie Coons – D)		
Tipton (Mayor-Elect Dan Delph – D)		
• Republicans	=	1
• Democrats	=	2

Breakdown for Non-IMPA Muni Electric Communities - Mayor

Incumbent Mayors winning	=	5
Mishawaka (Mayor Jeff Rea – R)		
Bluffton (Mayor Ted Ellis – D)		
Auburn (Mayor Norm Yoder – R)		
Logansport (Mayor Mike Fincher – D)		
Garrett (Mayor Dave Wiant – D)		
• Republicans		2
• Democrats		3

Incumbent Mayors who lost	=	1
Cannelton (Mayor Melvin McBrayer – R)		
• Republican		1

How does all of this shake-out for IMPA Commissioners who hold elected office in their respective communities?

Currently, we have 6 IMPA Commissioners who serve as Mayors: Herb (Rensselaer), Doug Hedrick (Greendale), Bill Graham (Scottsburg), Brad

Crain (Covington) all retained their office. Mayor Rodney Fleming (Greenfield) and Mayor Gail Kemp (Huntingburg) were defeated.

Currently we have 5 IMPA Commissioners who serve as Clerk Treasurers: Bev Stout, Kathy Hudson, Rosalie Jacobs, Becky McGlauchlen, and Sue Saunders. Bev was the only one not seeking re-election in 2007. Kathy, Rosalie, Becky and Sue will all continue in their positions. Sandy Procter will take over for Bev Stout.

Again, local politics played a key role in this election. While the majority of the information provided pertains to Mayors, there were several changes in the make-up of city and town Councils throughout the municipal electric communities. These changes can be attributed to both retirements and spirited election battles. There is not necessarily one common denominator that can explain the election results in any two communities. Where property taxes were a major issue in one area, sewer problems were the main concern in another. There were many upsets in places no one expected. One thing that is for certain, however, is that in the coming weeks we will all be trying to figure out how the municipal elections of 2007 will prepare us for the 2008 election season!

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