

Mayors

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Inderwies said he wanted to be reelected so he can continue what he considers a successful run in office.

"I just want to get reelected again so I can continue with progress made over past years," he said.

Inderwies said he has supported all the non-profits in town, either financially or by participation. As mayor he also sits on the planning board.

Inderwies is married to wife Lydia and is the father of three grown children.

Edward Mahaney believes he is uniquely qualified to provide the strong leadership he believes the city needs. Mahaney believes leadership is lacking in city government, and questioned whether some others are even up to speed on the existing form of government.

Mahaney, 62, has a doctorate in special education administration, and is an administrator at the Woodbine Developmental Center, where he has worked for 20 years. He has worked in the field for 40 years. He has owned property in Cape May for 38 years, and has been a full time resident

since 1985.

Mahaney served on Cape May City Council from July 1, 1995 to June 30, 2003. He was part of a governing body that changed from the council/manager form (which Cape May has now) to a council form with a strong mayor, who served as the chief executive and administrative officer.

Mahaney ran for reelection three times in eight years due to changes in government, serving two years as mayor and one year as council president. Each time he was elected, he said, he was the top vote getter.

Mahaney decided not to run again in 2003, believing the city had made major progress, and feeling there should be limits on how long an elected official serves in office.

Mahaney said he is proud of his record as an elected official in Cape May. He counts among his major accomplishments the coordination for, funding and construction of Cape May desalination plant, which is still Cape May's largest capital improvement project.

"Without that plan we

would not have the potable water supply for next 20 years have now," he said.

Mahaney said when the project began he was told there was no grant money, but he was able to bring in \$1.25 million for the \$5 million project, with the rest coming in low interest loans.

Mahaney decided not to run for reelection in 2003, but he said people have been encouraging him to return ever since.

He said planning and development is lacking in the governing body, which he said spends too much time on low priority issues, such as whether to keep Lyle Lane open or closed during summer concerts, and not enough time on the long range development of the city. Mahaney said the town is being controlled by a small special interest group, who is determining the future of the town. He described the group as a number of people who are seeking their own financial objectives - to the detriment of the community.

He said capital projects are being advanced without regard to the master plan, and without the input and

consent of the public, who must pay for these projects.

Mahaney said he would use his education, work experience, networking abilities, and elected experience to advance the position of Cape May for the long term.

Gaffney worked in the insurance business for over 35 years between Philadelphia and South Jersey. He settled in Cape May in 1985 and worked as an insurance agent until 1995.

In 1990 he was first elected to the board of commissioners and served as mayor for two years. The form of government changed to a council form, and he was picked by the other two council members to serve as mayor. Gaffney stayed on council until July 1999, and was again picked as mayor on a five-member council. He served as mayor until 2001.

"This is the first time I ever ran for direct election as mayor," Gaffney said.

Gaffney served as a councilman until he was voted out of office in 2006.

As mayor he automatically served on the planning board, and he was later appointed by council to planning board. He

also served on the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) board, something he is very proud of.

"I led the charge with that so to speak. It was a win-win, and council was totally behind it. It's one of the best things council did," he said.

Gaffney served on the JIF executive board for a number of years, and said he was poised to become chairman but he lost the 2006 election. Since you don't have to be an elected official to be on the JIF board, he offered to serve, but council declined to appoint him.

Gaffney said he has always been very involved in financial planning and budgets. Before coming to Cape May, he served as a commissioner in Medford Lakes and was the commissioner in charge of finance.

"I think that experience was probably very beneficial," he said.

Gaffney said there are only two ways to control a budget and the tax rate: increase revenue or control expenses.

"They say there are so many fixed costs, and that's true, but you have to look at things, new hires, try to stretch the dollar as best can. The budget hasn't been looked at as closely as it can," he said.

Gaffney said money could be saved by taking advantage of solar power and other alternate forms of energy, for example. He mentioned the

possibility of using wind power at desalination plant, where the electric bill is six figures. He said alternate forms of energy should be looked at for the new Convention Hall, claiming no one is talking about that.

He said the city continues to buy big vehicles, and while the savings may be relatively small, they add up.

Gaffney said the city also has to consider employees, saying every time the city hires someone for \$20,000 per year it is looking at another \$14,000 in benefits.

Gaffney said the formula for water and sewer rates should be changed. Summer or "peak" rates, he said are very high and should be evaluated. He said perhaps there should be a commercial rate and a residential rate.

"It should be studied," he said.

Gaffney also proposes a 10-year program for capital expenses, saying to do two major capital projects in 12 to 18 months is very expensive.

Married has been married to wife Mary Ann for over 50 years, and is the father of five children, and has seven grandchildren. He is a U.S. Army veteran, a member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and vice president of the Beach Theatre Foundation. He is also a volunteer disc jockey at WCCA-FMLP.

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Community news brief

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golfers and sponsors to join them at their 2008 Golf Tournament, benefiting the Donna Wise Kelleher Scholarship Fund. The tournament will be held on Monday, May 5 at the beautiful Cape May National Golf Club. Many prizes will be awarded including Top 6 teams, closest to the pin, longest drive and closest to the hole, along with many door prizes and a \$20,000 Hole-in-One opportunity.

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