



SUN-TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Farid Wassef isn't running for mayor, despite what a phone survey is telling local voters.

Potential candidate testing waters: Bannon

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"Even if I wanted to do it, I don't think I'm in the right shape or frame of mind" to run for mayor, he said.

The robocall failed to list the two other registered candidates — Arnold Neufeldt-Fast and Willie Reodica.

"The mere fact they left me off, I think was done deliberately," Reodica told The Sun-Tribune.

The first-time mayoral candidate said he was not involved in hiring the company to conduct the robocalls and he did not get a call.

"Unconscionable. Inappropriate abuse of power of political people," he said of being left off the list.

Neufeldt-Fast tweeted out: "Don't worry of robocalls and misinfo in #Stouffville. Our rebellious (ie vs every tyranny) democratic spirit runs deep!" and " #Stouffville municipal robocalls scandal. Astounding. Strategy? Really, who 'doesn't' hang up when called? > Seniors, perhaps. Pretty sad."

The other question asked of residents was what are their main election issues: crime, transit, roads, taxes or other.

Frank Van Veen also received a robocall last week.

"I thought it was a riot," he said.

"I'm not against them as long as they're fair and balanced and this wasn't fair or balanced,"

he said.

"Who's ever running it, I hope they get their money's worth," said Altmann. He, too, claims to have not received a call neither is he the candidate behind them.

"I'm going to run this (campaign) professionally. I'm not going to run this like a circus because it's a very, very important job."

"I don't know the point of paying a company to do that when not all the candidates are listed," he said.

Bartley, who also told The Sun-Tribune he did not receive a call and is not the person behind them, questioned why someone not running was listed.

"I'm going to run this (campaign) professionally. I'm not going to run this like a circus because it's a very, very important job," he said.

Bannon, who also did not get a call and is not the person behind them, believes it's someone testing out the market for a potential candidate.

"I would suggest the only poll that counts is the poll on election day," he said.

Robocalls are permitted if they only pro-

vide information about a candidate's platform or ask a constituent to vote in an election or for a specific candidate. The robocall cannot request a contribution, either for money or money's worth, according to the CRTC's rules governing telemarketing for political candidates, parties and organizations.

At the beginning of the call, a clear identification message must be given of the name of the person or organization on whose behalf the call is being made; a brief description of the purpose of the call and an electronic or postal mailing address as well as a local or toll-free number at which a representative of the caller can be reached, according to the CRTC telemarketing rules for political candidates, parties and organizations.

The identification message must be repeated at the end of the call if the actual message exceeds 60 seconds. The caller must display the originating phone number or an alternate number where the caller can be reached.

According to residents who contacted The Sun-Tribune about the robocalls, there was no mention of who the call was made on behalf of other than the name of a company in Uxbridge.

Van Veen's call display showed a 21-digit number, which he said, usually indicates the call was generated via the Internet.

The Sun-Tribune has been unable to locate the company.

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