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## Fanning Springs Qualifying Ends; *Two Win, One Competes With Two Others*

Fanning Springs City Councilman Tommy Darus (Seat #1) is reelected - unopposed.

These still shots and video show Fanning Springs City Council member (Seat #1) Thomas 'Tommy' J. Darus III who won reelection after no one qualified in the race other than him as of the noon deadline to qualify today (Friday, Aug. 12). Another unopposed winner is John Thomas McDonald (Seat #5), who will replace Fanning Springs City Councilman Paul Chase (Seat #5) in January when that term begins.

Jennifer (Padot) Morris, one of three candidates for Seat #2, shakes hands with John McDonald, the unopposed victor in the race for Seat #5.

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Fanning Springs City Councilwoman Jane Nogaki (Seat #2), who like Chase chose against seeking reelection, will be replaced by either Jennifer (Padot) Morris (seen here), or Carl Colson or Joseph Locke, depending on which of those three candidates prevail after the elections. Since more than two people are running Seat #2, City Clerk Sheila Watson explained, there will be a primary election on Oct. 4 – at which time the field for that seat will be narrowed to two candidates. The election between those two Fanning Springs City Council Seat #2 finalists is



scheduled to be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 8, which is the same day for the general election for President of the United States, for various Florida offices, and Levy County (for some Fanning Springs residents) and Gilchrist County (for some Fanning Springs residents)

offices. Of course, Dixie County elections are the same day, but Fanning Springs voters are not qualified to cast ballots in those races. The City of Fanning Springs is in Levy and Gilchrist counties. Either Morris, Colson or Locke will take Seat #2 in January, depending on which person the most qualified voters choose. Mayor Howell E. 'Trip' Lancaster III is the mayor of the city. The other Fanning Springs City Council members are City Council member Barbara Locke (Seat #3) and City Councilman Ron Queen (Seat #4).

**Photos and video by Jeff M. Hardison © Aug. 12, 2016 @ 1:47 p.m.**