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Halfmoon board names member

Paul Hotaling is appointed councilman to fill vacancy created by supervisor's departure

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HALFMOON -- Paul Hotaling, a 42-year-old Halfmoon native, will fill the vacancy on Halfmoon's Town Board created when Mindy Wormuth was appointed supervisor.

Hotaling, who is a pump salesman for Emerick Associates in Latham, was appointed to serve the rest of 2007. He plans to stand for election in November for a two-year term.

"I'm not a career politician so I will do a lot of listening and learning at first," he said.

He has been active on the town's Republican committee. He said he wants to keep his hometown a nice place to live and raise a family.

Hotaling and his wife, Dawn, have a daughter, Danielle, who is 10.

On Tuesday, the Halfmoon Town Board unanimously voted to appoint him to the position. His family was in the audience and his appointment was followed by applause.

The vacancy on the board was created at the beginning of March, when Wormuth was appointed supervisor to succeed Ken Decerce, who stepped down to take a job in the private sector.

Wormuth, who has served Halfmoon town government since 2002, already said she plans to run for a full term as supervisor in November.

She praised Hotaling Wednesday, who was selected after an interview process with interested candidates.

"Everyone who knows Paul knows he's a hard worker and a straight-shooter. He has a great deal of practical, everyday experience and common sense that he will bring to our town government," Wormuth said.

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