



Sean Ryan are all vying to replace the council seat surrendered by John M. Tobin Jr., who resigned after nine years in July to take a job at Northeastern University.

In the district, which consists of Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, and parts of Roslindale and Mission Hill, voters will narrow the race down to the top two vote recipients who will square off in the Nov. 16 election. Polls were open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., as they will be next month.

A fellow neighborhood resident escorting Lagrega from the parish hall said she cast her ballot for O'Malley. The woman declined to identify herself.

"I thought he was a breath of fresh air, a young man who has a lot of good ideas," said the voter, who was also encouraged that O'Malley received Tobin Jr.'s endorsement.

Two others, who also only wanted to be identified as West Roxbury residents, said they voted for Hennigan. One of them called Hennigan a "great family man, with a great background and a great history."

At the Louis Agassiz Elementary School in Jamaica Plain, a JP voter who asked to be identified as Jim expressed support for O'Malley.

"He's a young politician with a bright future," Jim said. "He knows the community, and he's been on the right side of," progressive city issues.

A Forest Hills resident, who voted at the Woodbourne Apartments polling location and also declined to identify herself, said he cast her ballot for Demos.

"I really liked what he had to say about bringing the community into city decisions," said the voter who is new to the city and felt voting in the primary would help acquaint themselves with local issues.

Two of the candidates, along with volunteers from Chan's campaign, were conducting some last-minute campaigning outside the West Roxbury parish hall late this morning. Ryan and Hennigan each said they will likely split much of their day asking voters for their support there as well as at the nearby St. George Orthodox Church – two of the district's most popular voting spots based on figures from the statewide primary election in September.

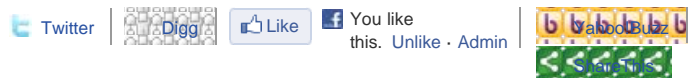
"I've always felt if you just start hitting six or seven places [on election day], you end up spending more time in the car than you do talking to voters," Hennigan said.

The five contenders have participated in several local forums including one at a senior residential complex in West Roxbury two weeks ago and another in Jamaica Plain the week prior.

Each has also filled out a voter guide questionnaire provided by the Globe and another provided by activist group Jamaica Plain Progressives.

The Jamaica Plain Progressives voter guide also has video interviews, as does the The JPVoice.

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