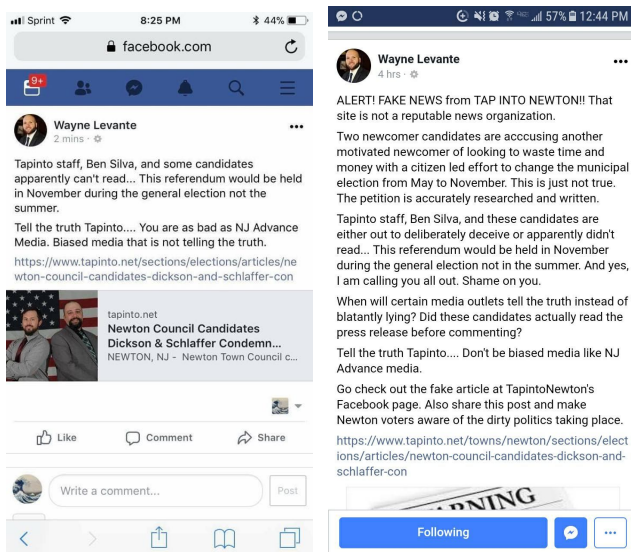


Matt Dickson & Jason Schlaffer

For Newton Town Council

Paid for by Matthew Dickson & Jason Schlaffer for Newton Town Council

Newton, NJ - March 8th, 2018 - Incumbent Mayor Wayne Levante seems unable to control himself on social media. Barely more than a month after posting a tearful video accusing NJ Advance Media staff of attacking him and dividing the town, he has attacked local media yet again. This time, he went after TAPinto Newton (an online community news organization) and its staff after they ran an article mildly critical of him. In two separate posts on his official campaign Facebook page, he calls TAPinto “FAKE NEWS,” “biased media,” and “not a reputable news source.” He goes on to accuse TAPinto of “blatantly lying.”

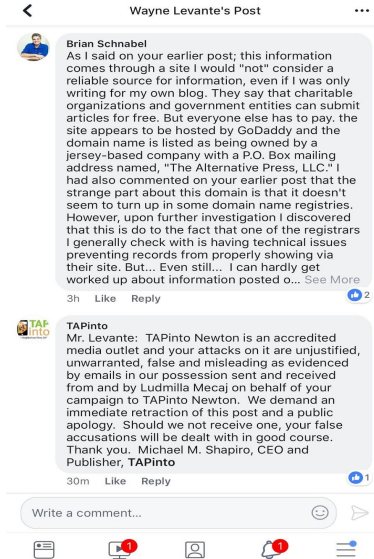


This morning, TAPinto publicly demanded an apology, stating

“Mr. Levante: TAPinto Newton is an accredited media outlet and your attacks on it are unjustified, unwarranted, false and misleading as evidenced by emails in our possession sent and received from and by Ludmilla Mecaj on behalf of your campaign to TAPinto Newton. We demand an immediate

retraction of this post and a public apology. Should we not receive one, your false accusations will be dealt with in good course.

Thank you. Michael M. Shapiro, CEO and Publisher, [TAPinto](#)”



Mr. Levante is locked in a contentious seven-way May 8th Municipal Election. The race has heated up recently after he responded to Matt Dickson & Jason Schlaffers’ (two of his opponents) campaign promise to move the Town’s May elections to November by supporting a Faulkner petition drive to the same effect. However, when Mr. Schlaffer and Mr. Dickson [pointed out](#) that if the Council voted no to this measure, as it has in the past, the taxpayers would be on the hook for an expensive midsummer referendum (see [Faulkner Act](#), page 44), and TAPInto ran the story, Mr, Levante proceeded to attack the staff of a reputable local news outlet.

Three seats on the Newton Town Council are up for election this May 8th. The deadline to register to vote is April 17th