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ELECTION NEWS

Papé only candidate for Ward 5

Running uncontested, Gary Dean Papé should have a position on the City Council next year

By Tricia Duryee
Community Reporter

The May 15 primary election for Eugene City Council Ward 5 — which contains most of the area west of Coburg Road and north of the Willamette River — will be an easy decision for those citizens to make; there is only one candidate.

Running uncontested, Gary Dean Papé should start his position on the City Council at the beginning of next year after Vice President Ken Tollenaar's term ends in December.

As an attorney, Papé said he has past public-safety experience as a prosecutor from Utah.

Papé also said his experience in business management and real estate through his company, Papé Properties, will play an important role in his council responsibilities.

Councilman Tollenaar decided not to run for re-election; however, he thought the greatest challenge for the new council would be to set up another source of income for the city.

"In the next few years, the council will have to get the people to approve a new source of revenue to avoid cuts in services from Measure 47," said Tollenaar. "It had some awful effects in the cultural services and recreation."

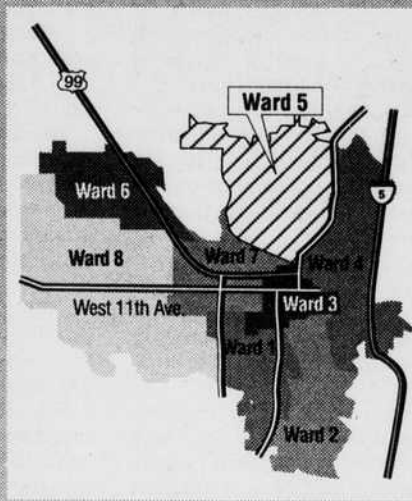
Papé said one of the biggest issues for the council would be to designate more sites for parks and recreational fields.

"I am concerned with the adequacy of parks," he said. "We are way behind in baseball and soccer fields compared to other cities of this size."

Eugene City Council wards

The location of Eugene city wards and a list of their current representatives:

- WARD 1: Tim Laue
- WARD 2: Betty Taylor
- WARD 3: Bobby Lee
- WARD 4: Laurie Swanson Gribskov
- WARD 5: Ken Tollenaar
- WARD 6: Pat Farr
- WARD 7: Scott Meisner
- WARD 8: Nancy Nathanson



MATT GARTON/Emerald

Papé said he wanted the position because he felt it was time to do something for the community.

"I was raised in Eugene. I have raised four children here, and it has been home to my extended family and business," he said. "It was time to give back, and this was the appropriate way."

Papé said some of the issues, besides parks, would include continuing public safety and managing growth.

One decision the council will have to make is the hiring of a new city manager to fill the vacancy left by Vicki Elmer's recent termination. Tollenaar and Papé don't see this process as a big concern.

"I don't consider it to be a horrendous, difficult task," said Tollenaar. "Cities go through it all the time."

Papé agreed: "The biggest challenge will be to determine a clear and detailed objective in what we want from a city manager. [The

termination] wasn't pleasant, but it wasn't unusual."

While Tollenaar thought Papé would do a good job, he also thought there would be some differences.

"He follows things pretty closely. He represents the business interest of the community, which is something I would never be confused with," Tollenaar said.

However, Papé looked at it differently. "[Tollenaar] is a wonderful, thoughtful man. We might view a few things differently, but I don't see a huge shift."

Papé said he would like to see the council go back to strictly being a policy-making body and be less involved in the day-to-day operations of the city.

As for dealing with what he considers an eclectic community, Papé said: "It is hard to get a grasp of a common will, other than to obtain a high quality of life. I am ready to represent Ward 5."

APRIL 3, 1998

9:30 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.

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