

Christopher Hall wants to be mayor

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Writer



“I’m motivated to run for mayor to fulfill the citizen’s desires for discipline, honesty, accountability, competence and transparency in governance and leadership,” said Christopher Hall. “I’ve walked the city and spoken to many residents who have made this clear to me. Folks I’ve spoken to don’t have confidence in the status quo.”

Hall’s vision for Cave Junction’s future is a community “that has enough jobs and affordable housing to support the public safety resources and economic development potential that we need to strengthen the city and make it a more attractive destination for visitors. That’s made possible by a healthy body politic that works in a transparent, non-partisan manner to efficiently serve the public by creating justifiable solutions to civic challenges

and by seizing opportunities before they slip away.”

Hall wants to revise the city’s charter to “clarify the roles and responsibilities of elected and appointed officials.” He also said a review of current staffing is appropriate and that he wants to create a new city manager position to “provide residents the best services possible.”

He explained how it’s important to “review and streamline the budget and identify priorities and excesses” to accomplish goals.

“We also need to answer the call from residents for increased public safety and that includes developing a Fire Safety/Evacuation Plan. And we need to clean up the parks and streets and rein in costs from our struggling water and sewage treatment plants,” Hall said, adding that updates to the city’s plans for urban development, stormwater management and transportation are necessary to accomplish those goals.

While living in San Diego, Hall was elected to oversee downtown redevelopment and he chaired their urban development committee overseeing that city’s 20-year plan. With his partner, he founded and ran a major performing arts cultural institution from 1994 to 2007; was active on boards of trustees; co-founded the Cave Junction Farmers’ Market where currently he serves as board president; and

he’s also the treasurer of the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Hall grew up on an Apple orchard in a small town in Vermont, where he worked on the farm as a kid, and later, contained working as an equipment operator. In fact, he just sold his large Cat 426D Backhoe. He went to boarding school, and later in college, earned a Bachelor of Arts in theater with a focus on liberal arts studies. With his family, he spent 12 years as a homesteader, both in northern California and Oregon, having moved to the Illinois Valley in 2012.

Hall says his political philosophy has evolved over the years as he’s “seen how others try to govern and how I have felt when I’ve ‘been governed.’ I strongly believe inspiration to be the core around which respect, honesty, transparency and competence orbit. The cliché says that politics is the art of the possible - what can and cannot be done - and I know from experience that nothing ever got done without inspiration.

“Residents of the city should vote for me if they want their mayor to provide inspired leadership with discipline, common decency, competence and strength,” Hall said. “I will insist on transparency, respect for citizens and honesty and fairness in everything we do.”

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