

Q&A

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Ben Schimmoller



Age: 29
Neighborhood of residence: Northwest
Time in Redmond: 2 years
Political experience: Precinct committee person (2016 — present), campaign manager (various, 2014 — 2022), State Representative candidate (2018)
Work experience: Legislative director for Senator Tim Knopp, real estate and development, restaurant server and bartender
Education: Bachelor's in political science from Oregon State University
Family: Wife, Jessica

Why did you choose to run for this seat?

Redmond is at a crossroads because of considerable growth over the past few years. Population estimates suggest that over the past two years, seven people have moved to Redmond per day. We need to be ready to face the challenges and seize the opportunities that come with that growth.

My wife and I want to raise our family here in Central Oregon where we grew up. We want our children to have that same opportunity. Rising housing costs, not enough family wage jobs and higher taxes have put this dream on hold for too many. I want to create more public-private partnerships to develop meaningful solutions to the challenges we face in city government. We need elected officials who truly understand what everyday residents of Redmond are facing.

What in your background gives you the skills to succeed in this position?

As a legislative staffer in Salem, I helped redirect resources from Salem back to local communities like Redmond. This can help with major projects that will save taxpayers money and build needed infrastructure that will benefit Redmond for generations. My years of work with Mayor George Endicott have kept me current on issues facing Redmond. I'll put my experience in real estate, development and housing policy to work immediately to address housing and homelessness. These issues are complex and I am willing to work with anyone to solve these problems, our best chance of success will involve partnerships with the public and private sectors.

What is the city of Redmond doing well and what does it need to improve?

Redmond has done a good job funding core services while keeping taxes low. I intend to continue that record. Law enforcement and emergency services are important to me as we see urban areas in Oregon facing crime and drugs. I want the streets of Redmond to be clean and safe.

I've already mentioned Redmond has more work to do on housing and homelessness. I will never stop working on economic development, because we will always be in competition for good

jobs in this incredible free market system we have. Another place we need to improve is transportation. That is a big challenge that Redmond will need to solve if we want to make this growth manageable.

How will you measure the success of the council during your term?

Finding meaningful paths and partnerships to address the serious issues of housing, homelessness, and infrastructure. We need to show plans to address these challenges facing the city. A council that accomplishes meaningful progress that is achievable and fiscally responsible will be what we should always strive for in local government. This comes from open and frequent engagement with the community. I want to ensure that the people of Redmond know that their council will be accessible, ready to listen and able to work to keep our city the special place we know and love.

Charles Webster Baer



Age: 53
Neighborhood of residence: Northeast
Time in Redmond: 4 years
Political experience: None
Work experience: Security, globalinternetgovernment.com
Education: Graduated from the University of Hawaii at Hilo in 1994
Family: No kids, no wife, no ex wife
Why did you choose to run for mayor?

I chose to run for mayor of Redmond for many reasons. I love Redmond. I love politics. I feel that Redmond can lead the world by example in the two most important political issues of this millennium: 1) environmentalism and 2) transparency.

When I say environmentalism, I'm talking about depopulationism. I have been a depopulationist since 1985 and it has shaped who I am and what I stand for ever since. Depopulationism means that it is illegal for any human to reproduce a second time for the next few centuries. Violators will be fined and have to do community service. I feel that this is the only way to save Earth. I feel the voters of Redmond have the intelligence to realize this and the courage to rise to the occasion and lead the planet now by example.

What in your background gives you the skills to succeed in this position?

My background with the www.globalinternetgovernment.com, which I created in Portland 2000, gives me the ability to create a cybercurrency for the state of Oregon. It's called KASH. It's totally transparent, it will be owned and operated by the state of Oregon and it will be available to all people on Earth.

I also created an online voting platform called VOAT. This also will be totally transparent, owned and operated by the Oregon government and be available to all people.

My background as a Buddhist gives me the ability to talk about Buddhism as a philosophy. In my opinion, the correct philosophy. Buddha said: "If the universe does not exist, then you are the soul." I think that makes a lot of sense and also shows religion to be incorrect. Once one realizes religion is incorrect, then it is easy to see how the little amount of religion that is left in the U.S. gov-

ernment should be removed completely and permanently.

What is the city of Redmond doing well and what does it need to improve?

The city of Redmond is doing everything well. We don't need to change anything. The only thing missing is a real leader that can go on and lead the state, the nation, the planet. The only Redmond is missing is the vision of our massive potential.

If I'm elected mayor, I will tell everyone that they are doing a great job and keep it up. It will be my responsibility as mayor of Redmond to get Deschutes County and Salem up to speed. That means depopulationism as law. That means removing religion from all government entities, completely and permanently. That means KASH and VOAT. That means putting Oregon in a position to make its own future. That means putting Redmond in a space to create its own destiny. That means giving all of us here in Central Oregon the power and the vision to save Earth now.

How will you measure the success of the council during your term?

I would measure the success of the council by making sure they kept the current excellent standard or improved upon it. I'm sure they will do that. The standard now is one of transparency, logic, common sense, a good sense of humor, fairness, concern, discussion, community participation, compromise, vision, patriotism, pride in Redmond, etc.

Clifford Evelyn is a great example of this code. If (councilor Shannon) Wedding can't make the meetings, she should resign. She never should have run in the first place. Other than that, the future of Redmond is very bright whoever the mayor is. I think it is time for Oregonians to rise up and take charge — here in Oregon and all over the world. I think it's what we must do and what we will do and I look forward to being a large part of that. I look forward to the fun, the joy, the adventure and the duty.

Jay Patrick



Age: 65
Neighborhood: Cascade View Estates
Time in Redmond: 59 years
Political experience: 24 years on Redmond City Council

Work experience: Les Schwab (18 years in sales and service, warehouse, home office. JCESD- Network Administrator -23 yrs

Education: COCC, Mt Hood Community College – Associate Degree

Family: Wife Carmen, married 41 years, daughter Morgan and grandkids Jayden, Kaylynn, Kalea.

Why did you choose to run for this seat?

My love for Redmond and our community runs deep. This is why I have served on council for 24 years. The connection I have with our community and the sincere care I take, for how I support our city, and the relationships I have built in this community is why Redmond citizens have chosen me in six consecutive 4-year-term elections.

During most of this time I have served as council president which results in me stepping in for the mayor during times when they were unable to lead council. This has helped prepared me to be Redmond's next mayor.

Personally, I feel called to run for mayor to ensure the right future and path forward for Redmond during this pivotal time.

What in your background gives you the skills to succeed in this position?

I have a proven track record of how my skills have been utilized to ensure the needs of Redmond are met. These skills come from a wealth of knowledge of Redmond's history, deep connections with business leaders, first responders, educators, community leaders, county officials, farmers, and the vast expansion of those who contribute to Redmond.

I serve on the budget committee for Redmond which oversees \$128,000,000 budget. I have been steadfast in ensuring we are fiscally responsible with that budget. I have also served on the Redmond Airport committee, COIC board, and Deschutes County fair board — giving me the background and skills that only actual working experience can achieve.

I am possibly the longest-serving elected official in Deschutes County. This was only achieved through honest dedication, strong moral fiber, and servitude to our city, that has been reciprocated by continuously being elected by our the Redmond voters.

What is the city of Redmond doing well and what does it need to improve?

Redmond has done a great job in planning for the future. We've accomplished major infrastructure enhancements and made plans for others. Looking at the completed well on the SW side of town and our community expected to reach 50,000 people by 2040, this shows us being proactive.

We've done a great job in providing water. And it's quality water, coming from a replicable source like the Geologic Deschutes groundwater formation. Plans are already in place and soon construction is starting to improve how traffic flows through our town. In the future improving how truck traffic bypasses our town. We have done a great job in how we revitalize our downtown and supported small businesses.

We need to do better in working collectively as a council to listen to our community, involve our community and allow discussions to happen. This is something that has been stifled in recent years.

How will you measure the success of the council during your term?

Maintaining our Redmond culture and the way we bring our community together during all seasons of the year. How we listen to our communities needs while including them in the process. Ensuring our city police officers are funded and supported and continue to keep this community safe. The progress we make on our continued urban development master planning and stewardship of the budget. How we grow in a way that positively influences our overall tax base without passing the burden to individual tax payers. The actions we've taken to support adequate housing. How we listen, support our staff and partner with them to bring high quality, diversified, living wage industries and jobs to Redmond.

These are the things that make Redmond a place our kids will want to return to as adults. These are all things that make Redmond Redmond!



Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

A coach for Redmond Youth Football watches a game on Oct. 15 at the grand opening of the Redmond Rotary Community Fields across from Hugh Hartman Elementary School.

Rotary

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According to Michael Summers, RSD board chair, the school board first approved a plan for the athletic field in 1996 and was funded by a \$250,000 donation from the Jaqua family. The first phase of the field was completed in 1997, but phase two was never completed. In 2019, the Redmond Rotary agreed to five years of financial support for the complex.

Originally an estimated \$4-5 million plan, the school district instead spent just \$1.9 million

due to donations and contributions from the community and the sale of a property on 9th and Antler.

"We live in a wonderful place and can easily take for granted the dreaming, engineering, volunteering and generosity it takes to make a community what it is," Summers said, before thanking each contributor to the project.

Supporters include Community Sports Development, York Bros Excavation, H.A. McCoy Engineering & Surveying, HMK Company, Smith Rock Electrical, the Redmond Rotary

and Hayden Homes. Hayden donated \$50,000 to install field lights.

According to Brown, the LED lights are completely programmable and give off no light pollution to the surrounding area. "People out in the neighbor-

hood there can take comfort in knowing that kids can play out here all night and they can still get a good night's sleep," Cline said.

In the future, the school district is hoping to add more bleachers, Wi-Fi, security cam-

eras, a press box, concession stands and bathrooms. They are also planning to develop a parking lot so people don't have to depend on the limited spaces at Hugh Hartman Elementary School.

The fields aren't just for the

Redmond School District, said Brown, and will also be available for the community to use. Those interested in renting a field can go to the school district's website to reserve a spot.

■ Reporter: nrosenberger@redmondspokesman.com

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