

Council extends Summer Series contract

Questions and criticism of process continue at Jan 18 meeting



(LEFT) The city-sponsored Summer Concert Series at Keizer Rapids Park and its operator (RIGHT) Clint Holland at a Nov. 15 council meeting. Photo by JOEY CAPPELLETTI of Keizertimes

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer City Council voted at the Jan. 18 meeting to continue its Summer Concert Series partnership with the Clint Holland-run KRA — but not before the controversial process was further questioned, and criticized, by councilors.

“I have lots of questions that still remain unanswered about the process

and I don’t know if I’ll ever get them fully answered since I wasn’t a part of the process from beginning to end,” said newly elected councilor Shaney Starr. “I do think, from what I read and watched, that there were many opportunities along the way for things to have been done differently and maybe have been done better.”

KRA has operated the Summer Concert Series since 2013 but the

Keizer Chamber of Commerce was set to take over the operation this year after independent evaluators recommended the Chamber’s proposal over KRA’s.

At a Dec. 6 meeting, the council opted to restart the proposal process after Holland claimed, and the city confirmed, that proposal was sent by the city to the wrong address and Holland didn’t receive it until Aug. 19 — six days

after the Chamber received it and 11 days until the deadline.

After resubmitting proposals, KRA was re-awarded the contract after their proposal was scored higher than the Chamber’s. Keizer Police Chief John Teague, one of the proposal evaluators, noted on his score sheet that “it’s not lost on me that KRA took advantage of

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Mannix leads crowded field contending for vacant representative seat

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI
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The race for a vacant seat in Oregon’s House District 21 has begun to take shape as one of the state’s most prominent Republicans, Kevin Mannix, filed in the district Thursday.

Mannix joins four other candidates that have already filed in the district. Ramiro “RJ” Navarro Jr., Dave McCall and Robert Husseman have filed for the Democratic nomination while Mannix will contend with Kyler McNaught for the Republican nomination.

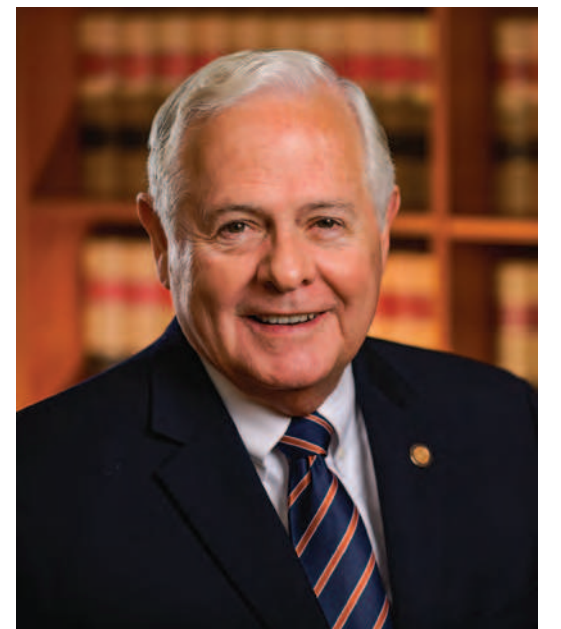
Longtime District 21 incumbent Brian Clem (D-Salem) stepped down in November and was replaced by Salem City Councilor Chris Hoy, who has said he won’t run again

since he doesn’t live within the newly drawn district.

Mannix, who operates his own law firm in Salem, enters the race with the most experience of all the candidates. He served on and off in the Oregon House of Representatives from 1988 until 2000 and in 2002 he ran as the Republican nominee in a gubernatorial race that he would go on to lose by 88,000 votes to Ted Kulongoski.

During his time in the Oregon Legislature, Mannix authored 135 bills that were eventually turned into laws. Mannix was a Democrat until 1997 when he switched to the Republican party while in office and attributes his success with passing laws to his ability to cross the aisle.

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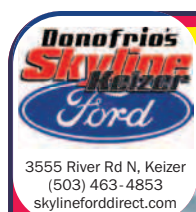


Mannix

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