

Warrenton: Candidates committed to running for another four years

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Balensifer has been acting mayor since former mayor Mark Kujala announced in March that he was stepping down mid-way through his four-year term to spend more time with his family and business, Skipanon Brand Seafood. Whomever the commission picks to replace him will be mayor through Kujala's 2018 term. At the hearing Tuesday, both Newton and Balensifer said if they were picked as mayor, they would run again for a four-year term after serving out Kujala's term.

Assuming the two candidates will vote for themselves, Dyer and Commissioner Pam

Ackley will cast the deciding votes. If the final result is a tie, Balensifer will continue as acting mayor until the stalemate is broken or through 2018.

Packed with people

The city's small meeting room was packed with people who had come for the hearing. They submitted written questions to Deputy City Recorder Dawne Shaw, who read them to the commission. Balensifer and Newton took turns to answer each question.

There were several questions asking the candidates about their political and educational backgrounds and how they believed those experiences equip them to serve as

mayor. Balensifer answered that he has long been politically active, and pointed out that he has been "shadowing" the former mayor in his position as mayor pro tem. Newton said most of his experience is business-related.

Port of Astoria Commissioner Stephen Fulton asked the candidates if they have a plan to help the Warrenton School District with its building space needs. Both candidates replied that these decisions were for the elected members of the school board to make, but that the city would cooperate when appropriate.

Another question asked Newton to clarify his stance on the Walmart development.

Newton had voted against the store coming to Warrenton and, on Tuesday, he repeated that he didn't think Walmart was right for the community, that it would not bring the living-wage jobs it has promised. Balensifer said when he was on the city's Planning Commission, he had voted against Walmart's original site design because it didn't match up with city code, but that if a business meets the code, "equal treatment under the law means we permit them." He added that it's up to the electorate to then inform the city how they feel about new or different types of development.

Four more years

Pat O'Grady, owner of

Warrenton Auto & Marine Repair, asked how long Newton and Balensifer plan to stay with the City Commission. At a previous meeting, O'Grady had spoken in support of Newton as mayor. Balensifer replied that he had not considered running for mayor previously because he'd assumed Kujala would still be mayor.

"If there's a good person in office, running the city well, why run against them?" he said.

Both men then said they were committed to running for another four years if appointed as mayor.

Other residents who gave public comments — including Balensifer's father and Newton's longtime friend,

Mike Balensifer — urged Ackley and Dyer to vote for Balensifer.

"I think the commission has already made their decision on who should be our next mayor," said Lyla Gaebel, a former Sunset Empire Transportation District board member. She pointed out that for all of these years, they have continued to select him to serve as mayor pro tem, acting as mayor if Kujala was unavailable. She commended Newton for applying for the position, but, she said, handling city budgets, codes and policies is very different from business.

"At this time," she said, "I don't believe you have the experience in government."

St. Clare: Was convicted last year for animal cruelty in Snohomish County

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The Warrenton Police officer asked St. Clare where she would rank her cats' care on a scale from 1 to 10. She allegedly gave herself a ranking of two. Despite the dismal conditions, St. Clare allegedly told the officer she fled because she was fearful authorities would take her "kitties."

Though all of the 41 live cats were properly fed, most of their coats were stained with urine, and the ammonia odor lasted two days after the cats were rescued, Bayshore Animal Hospital Director Brad Pope said. Nearly all the cats allegedly contained mites, fleas and microscopic lice.

The cat taken to clinics in November allegedly still suffered from the same eye scarring clinic staff noticed months earlier, Pope said. That cat will likely be euthanized within weeks.

Out of the seven cats that had been tested as of the motion's filing, five tested positive for leukemia. The animals that survive will not be available for adop-

'The outlook is pretty grim. Most of these animals are going to have to be euthanized.'

Brad Pope
Bayshore Animal Hospital director

tion until the court case is resolved.

"The outlook is pretty grim," Pope said. "Most of these animals are going to have to be euthanized."

Previous conviction

St. Clare was convicted last year for animal cruelty in Snohomish County. There, she hoarded more than 100 cats in her trailer.

In lieu of jail time, she was given felony probation and ordered to seek mental health counseling and not possess animals.

A psychologist predicted she would continue to hoard cats, which she viewed as her family, and wrote that St. Clare did not believe they were as sick as animal control officers described.

The warrant was filed after St. Clare failed to appear at an April 2016 hearing.

Clatsop County Circuit Court Judge Paula Brownhill kept bail at \$25,000 despite Marquis' request to raise it to \$50,000. St. Clare was, however, excluded from the matrix that determines which inmates get released when the jail is too crowded, meaning she will only be able to leave jail if she posts security. Kirk Wintermute, a court-appointed attorney for St. Clare, called the \$50,000 bail request excessive, citing the fact that St. Clare is homeless and would not be able to pay either figure. Marquis said exclusion from the matrix was preferable to increased bail.

"The harm she has done is substantial," the district attorney said.

An early resolution conference has been scheduled for May.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Da Yang Seafood, which leases space in the Port of Astoria's Pier 2 fish-processing warehouse, has been fined for wastewater violations by the state for the second time in less than two years.

Da Yang: Port of Astoria is looking into the implications of the fines on company's lease

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Lack of permit

During an inspection, the state uncovered how Da Yang had been operating without a general seafood-processing permit for the past seven years, which led to the previous \$85,000 fine. Afterward, Da Yang applied for an individual permit, which the state is still working on.

The state agreed not to fine Da Yang for future unpermitted discharges while the agency develops a new permit, as long as Da Yang ensured its wastewater was up to the same standards as other permit hold-

ers. But the state claims the company has continued to fall short on monitoring and limiting effluent.

"They're not in violation every day, but they have had days where they've exceeded the limits," said Jeff Bachman of the DEQ's Office of Compliance and Enforcement.

Bachman said Da Yang is making efforts to upgrade its processing plant to meet permit conditions. The fines will progressively grow larger, he said, and could eventually lead to criminal enforcement if the company does not fix the issues.

Labor violations

Da Yang was recently fined \$60,000 by the Bureau of Labor and Industries for meal, rest period and overtime violations between August and October 2015.

The Port, which leases land on Pier 2 to Da Yang, is looking into the implications of the fines on the company's lease.

Several people and Port commissioners at a recent meeting called for some action to be taken against Da Yang, from hiking the lease payment to eviction. Jim Knight, the Port's executive director, said the Port would look into the lease conditions.

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Legal Notices

AB6226 Notice of Budget Committee Meeting

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Astoria School District 1C, county of Clatsop, state of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, will be held at 785 Alameda Ave, Astoria OR 97103. The meeting will take place on May 3, 2017 at 6:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 3, 2017 at 785 Alameda Ave, between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm. **Published: April 12th and 19th, 2017**

Legal Notices

AB6261 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

On June 6, 2017, at the hour of 10:00 AM at the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office, 1190 SE 19th Street in the City of Warrenton, Oregon, the defendant's interest will be sold, subject to redemption, in the real property commonly known as: 2875 Marine Dr, Astoria, OREGON. The court case number is 16CV00116, where FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE"), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is plaintiff, and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVICES OF CATHERINE M. POLLOCK; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVICES OF EAMON POLLOCK; TIMOTHY J. ESPOSITO; COMMERCIAL ADJUSTMENT COMPANY; OCCUPANTS OF THE PROPERTY is defendant. The sale is a public auction to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check, in hand, made out to Clatsop County Sheriff's Office.

For more information on this sale go to: <http://oregonsheriffssales.org/> (OR), <http://files.co.clatsop.or.us/ccso/foreclosures.pdf>
Published: April 26th, May 3rd, 10th, and 17th, 2017

AB6264 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CLATSOP COUNTY HEARINGS OFFICER

Notice is hereby given that the Clatsop County Hearings Officer will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 10:00 AM, Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial Street, Astoria, OR to consider the following item:

Knappa Platt LLC, on behalf of Stephen L. and Charlotte A. Hyson, has submitted a request for a 10-foot variance to the 20-foot front and rear setbacks of the RA1 Zone for the purpose of constructing a single-story, single-family dwelling on their property located at 39814 Burnside Loop, Astoria OR 97103, also identified as T8N, R08W, Section 16DC, Tax Lot 00703.

A copy of all documents pertaining to this matter may be reviewed in the Clatsop County Community Development office, 800 Exchange Street, Suite 100, Astoria, at no cost and may be obtained at reasonable cost seven (7) days prior to the hearing. **Published: April 26th, 2017**

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