

MONMOUTH CANDIDATES

Nine vie for four open positions on council; Milligan runs unopposed for mayor

Itemizer-Observer staff report
 MONMOUTH — Nine people have thrown their name in the hat for four open positions on the Monmouth city council. Current councilor Steve Milligan is the sole candidate for mayor.

All candidates returned the questionnaire sent out by the *Itemizer-Observer*. Meet your candidates here:

Monmouth Mayor candidate

NAME: Steve Milligan, 63, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Oregon HALO, one year

EDUCATION: Chemeketa Community College, 2014, associate of applied sciences, accounting

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Monmouth City Council, 2003-2010 and 2013-2016 (current), Council President, 2009-2010; WIMPEG Board of Directors, 2003-2007; Minet Board of Directors, 2004-2006; Monmouth Planning Commission, 2011-2012; Monmouth Budget Committee, 2011-2012; Central School District Budget Committee, 2011-2016; Central School District Board Member, 2016 (current); Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments, Board Member, 2015 (present); Precinct Committee Person, Precinct 178, Democrat, 2016 (present)



Milligan

CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER: 503-269-1373

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I will bring a new perspective. The last 12 years have seen a lot of exciting growth in Monmouth, while still maintaining the small-town feel. I am excited about how far Monmouth has come and look forward to helping the city continue to move in a positive, livable direction.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

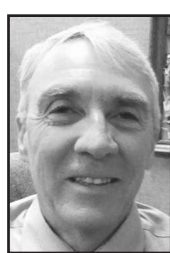
Revenue versus expenses. Constrained revenue and the higher costs for providing services has been an ongoing challenge for several years. Now, with the added strain of the PERS decision, our fiscal management will need to be at its best. The ways I see this happening are with the fiscal philosophy we have maintained over the past several years; continued conservative financial budgeting, continued effective staff financial management, and continued creative solutions for savings.

Monmouth city councilor candidates

NAME: Steve Deptula, 56, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Auditor, Oregon National Guard (2012-present)

EDUCATION: Master of Science, computer information systems, University of Phoenix, 2002; Master of Science, general administration, Central Michigan University, 1995; Bachelor of Science, geology, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 1985; Henry J. Kaiser High School, 1978



Deptula

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Internal auditor, Department of the Army, Oregon National Guard (2012-present); U.S. Air Force active duty, Idaho Air National Guard, Oregon Air National Guard, (1986-2012); Monmouth Budget Committee (2014-2016)

CAMPAIGN PHONE: 503-838-4747

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I have been in public service continuously since 1980. My career includes leadership roles in the fire service, military, law enforcement, education, nonprofit organizations, and most recently the Monmouth Budget Committee. I believe public service is a special privilege that should be exercised as much as possible.

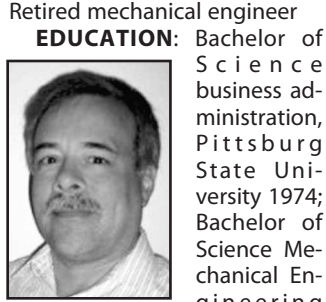
WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

The most compelling challenge the city is facing is in managing the budget in the face of significant and incrementally increasing PERS costs beginning in 2017 and continuing through 2023. Important activities to help reduce the impact of these cost increases include: 1. Specific financial goals and plans should be established and updated periodically. 2. Close coordination between the city council, department managers and the budget committee is essential to ensure specific goals and priorities for each budget cycle are clear and supported. 3. Intensifying efforts to inspire and support economic growth. 4. Keeping citizens informed and soliciting input.

NAME: Rich Graham, 63, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Retired mechanical engineer

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in business administration, Pittsburg State University 1974; Bachelor of Science Mechanical Engineering Kansas State University, 1984



Graham

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: None

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I'm running for office because of my personal desire to be a contributor to the welfare of my community. I am committed to achieving progress for Monmouth without losing our small-town atmosphere.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

Out of control spending on long-term debt obligation due to lack of ability to separate "needs" from "wants." This resulted in our taking on large amounts of unnecessary debt on such expenditures as Minet and the new police station and schools. We were sold on a lot of "bells and whistles," which achieved little more than put the city into long-term debt which will endanger the community in another bad economy. I will work to ensure that future proposals are focused on actual "needs," so that our community remains financially solid and our property taxes low.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISH TO NOTE ABOUT THE POSITION YOU ARE SEEKING?

Monmouth is as fine of a community as I have ever lived in during my life, and I am hoping to live out the rest of my life here now that I have retired. However, our current tax demands are out of proportion to what one would expect from a small-town, middle-class community. We need to get rid of our "champagne taste on a beer budget" mentality and get back to the basics if we want to be financially

secure in our homes free from excess taxes.

NAME: George W. Jeffery, 63, Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Retired for 2.5 years

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in business administration, Western Oregon University

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Monmouth Infrastructure and Storm Water Task Force (2015-present); Monmouth Budget Committee (2016); Monmouth Planning Commission (2016)

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I have served on a number of committees and boards in most of the places I have lived. I enjoy giving back to the community in which I live. I would like to see Monmouth maintain its small-town feel and a place that people are proud to call home.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

Every city has issues: infrastructure, budgetary, planning. I would like to see a more cohesive, mutually supporting relationship between the community and university. I would query local businesses and citizens on how they see the university; what the institution has done right; what it can do better to embrace a more communal role. At the same time, I would ask the university to include students to do the same. What is good from the community; what can be improved? Then I would ask each side to look within and devise what they can do to bring these two into one.

NAME: Mark Lane, 40, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Manager, Western Oregon University (9+ years)

EDUCATION: Pentrehafod Comprehensive School, GCSEs (high school diploma equivalent), 1992; Gorseinon College, A Levels in English, Law, Computer Science (AP / AA equivalent), 1994; University of Wales - Aberystwyth, BA (Hons) English Language and Literature, 1997; Western Oregon University, MSEI: Information Technology, expected Fall 2016 - Winter 2017

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Economic Development Commission, City of Monmouth (2009-2010); Urban Renewal District Agency Review Board, City of Monmouth, (2009-2010)

CAMPAIGN PHONE NUMBER: 503-383-9838

CAMPAIGN EMAIL: LaneMonmouth@gmail.com

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

Monmouth will soon see major changes in local government, with the incumbent mayor not running and two-thirds of the council seats up for election. We need to ensure that the previous, positive work of the council is continued, while supplementing with fresh ideas and new directions to invigorate the community.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

While issues include utility improvement, bond expiration, and capitalizing on highway construction, the biggest issue remains community engagement and vitality. The council made great strides in passing the resolution that created the Monmouth Engaged Committees. We will provide support to these committees to produce positive, tangible, and measurable results.

After serving on over a dozen city, community, and university groups, I have the experience to help continue improve relationships between communities to benefit Monmouth. More broadly, offering dedicated email and calendar hours will ensure that all community members who want to talk will have their voices heard.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISH TO NOTE ABOUT THE POSITION YOU ARE SEEKING?

Monmouth is a special place. I built my own house on Martin Way. An article about this project was published in the May-June, 2013 issue of Back Home magazine.

CITY OF MONMOUTH? WHO WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

I have listened to many Monmouth residents who believe our city could be better. Above all, they talk about the importance of making our city one that supports the vibrancy that comes when small businesses thrive. For many visitors, though, Monmouth is just a traffic light stop on Highway 99.

One person won't have the solution to these kinds of issues. It will take our educators, business owners, government officials and individual residents to come together to find a way to make Monmouth a city that everyone wants to visit — and stay to shop, to dine, to play and live.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISH TO NOTE ABOUT THE POSITION YOU ARE SEEKING?

I am an emeritus professor of public health. My specialty area is environmental health and my area of expertise is lead poisoning prevention.

NAME: Byron Shinkle, 41, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Current business owner of Cooper Hol-

low Residential Services; Director of Employee Relations (Human Resources) - Reading Health System, Reading, Penn. (2012-2015); Director of Employee Relations/Employment Counsel (last position held) - Holiday Retirement, Salem/Lake Oswego, (2006-2012)

EDUCATION: Central High School, 1993; Bachelor of Science, Western Oregon University, 2001; Master of Business Administration, Atkinson Graduate School of Management at Willamette University, 2006; Juris Doctor - Willamette University College of Law, 2006

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: None

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I have been looking for an opportunity to serve the community in some capacity and this opportunity arose. Further, I want to be an example to my children to encourage them that when the time is right, to get involved in the community to actively participate in their own governance.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

The question of sustainability is at the forefront. How do we preserve the community standards that residents of Monmouth have worked hard to create, yet maintain the flexibility and financial viability to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the community and advancements in technology?

See CANDIDATES, Page 3A

NAME: Laurel Sharmer, 69, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Emeritus Professor (Retired)

EDUCATION: Santa Cruz High School (California) 1964; San Jose State University, bachelor's degree with great distinction, 1979; San Jose State University, Master of Public Health Degree, 1981; Oregon State University, Doctor of Philosophy, 2000.

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Senior Health Educator, San Francisco Department of Public Health, 1987-1992; Senior Health Educator, Office of the California Attorney General, 1992 - 1993; Chair, St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Committee, 2002-2007

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE: Google "Laurel Sharmer."

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

Citizens in a participatory democracy have the privilege, the right and the responsibility to engage in their own governance. If the residents of Monmouth elect me to their city council, I will be honored to serve.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

Monmouth will soon see major changes in local government, with the incumbent mayor not running and two-thirds of the council seats up for election. We need to ensure that the previous, positive work of the council is continued, while supplementing with fresh ideas and new directions to invigorate the community.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

While issues include utility improvement, bond expiration, and capitalizing on highway construction, the biggest issue remains community engagement and vitality. The council made great strides in passing the resolution that created the Monmouth Engaged Committees. We will provide support to these committees to produce positive, tangible, and measurable results.

After serving on over a dozen city, community, and university groups, I have the experience to help continue improve relationships between communities to benefit Monmouth. More broadly, offering dedicated email and calendar hours will ensure that all community members who want to talk will have their voices heard.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISH TO NOTE ABOUT THE POSITION YOU ARE SEEKING?

Monmouth is a special place. I built my own house on Martin Way. An article about this project was published in the May-June, 2013 issue of Back Home magazine.

CITY OF MONMOUTH? WHO WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

I have listened to many Monmouth residents who believe our city could be better. Above all, they talk about the importance of making our city one that supports the vibrancy that comes when small businesses thrive. For many visitors, though, Monmouth is just a traffic light stop on Highway 99.

One person won't have the solution to these kinds of issues. It will take our educators, business owners, government officials and individual residents to come together to find a way to make Monmouth a city that everyone wants to visit — and stay to shop, to dine, to play and live.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WISH TO NOTE ABOUT THE POSITION YOU ARE SEEKING?

I am an emeritus professor of public health. My specialty area is environmental health and my area of expertise is lead poisoning prevention.

NAME: Byron Shinkle, 41, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Current business owner of Cooper Hol-

low Residential Services; Director of Employee Relations (Human Resources) - Reading Health System, Reading, Penn. (2012-2015); Director of Employee Relations/Employment Counsel (last position held) - Holiday Retirement, Salem/Lake Oswego, (2006-2012)

EDUCATION: Central High School, 1993; Bachelor of Science, Western Oregon University, 2001; Master of Business Administration, Atkinson Graduate School of Management at Willamette University, 2006; Juris Doctor - Willamette University College of Law, 2006

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: None

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

I have been looking for an opportunity to serve the community in some capacity and this opportunity arose. Further, I want to be an example to my children to encourage them that when the time is right, to get involved in the community to actively participate in their own governance.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

The question of sustainability is at the forefront. How do we preserve the community standards that residents of Monmouth have worked hard to create, yet maintain the flexibility and financial viability to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the community and advancements in technology?

See CANDIDATES, Page 3A

NAME: Laurel Sharmer, 69, of Monmouth

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Emeritus Professor (Retired)

EDUCATION: Santa Cruz High School (California) 1964; San Jose State University, bachelor's degree with great distinction, 1979; San Jose State University, Master of Public Health Degree, 1981; Oregon State University, Doctor of Philosophy, 2000.

PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE: Senior Health Educator, San Francisco Department of Public Health, 1987-1992; Senior Health Educator, Office of the California Attorney General, 1992 - 1993; Chair, St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Committee, 2002-2007

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE: Google "Laurel Sharmer."

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

Citizens in a participatory democracy have the privilege, the right and the responsibility to engage in their own governance. If the residents of Monmouth elect me to their city council, I will be honored to serve.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE FACING THE CITY OF MONMOUTH? HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS IT IF ELECTED?

Monmouth will soon see major changes in local government, with the incumbent mayor not running and two-thirds of the council seats up for election. We need to ensure that the previous, positive work of the council is continued, while supplementing with fresh ideas and new directions to invigorate the community.

Friends of the Salem Public Library

Fall Book Sale 2016

October 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th

**SALE HOURS: Thursday 4 PM to 8:30 PM
 Friday & Saturday 10 AM to 5:30 PM
 Sunday 1 PM to 4:30 PM**

- Hardcover: \$1.25 • Paperback: 75¢
- Children & Teens 50¢ • Audio/Visual 50¢ - \$1

Plaza Level of Salem Public Library in the Anderson Rooms, 585 Liberty Street NE. Parking meters will be enforced to the posted policies.

Thursday is FRIENDS NIGHT.
 Friends members get first pick of the sale!
 Memberships available at the door.

Sunday is BAG DAY!
 Fill up one of our bags with all the books that will fit and pay only **\$4.00**

SPECIALTY COLLECTION
 Hand picked rare & collectible books, priced as marked.

Special thanks to our sponsors, Trader Joe's and Roth's!

DALLAS FIREMED

PARAMEDIC AMBULANCE MEMBERSHIP

Support Your Local Ambulance

Dallas Ambulance Service

Open Enrollment September - October 31st

\$65 per household *within city limits* | **\$75** per household *outside city limits*

24 hours a day, year-around Emergency Medical Service Membership

For enrollment assistance call: **CITY OF DALLAS 503-831-3508**
 Offered to the communities of Dallas, Falls City, Rickreall, and surrounding areas
 Enroll and pay online at www.dallasor.gov

Featuring Growers, Producers & Artisans of the Polk County area & beyond!

To our Valued: Customers, Visitors, Non-profits, Musicians, Vendors, Volunteers & Sponsors

Thank you for our best season yet!

2016 Sponsors:
 Citizens Bank • City of Dallas
 Dallas Fire & EMS • Dallas Retirement Village
 Home Comfort • Itemizer Observer
 James W. Fowler • Oregon State Credit Union
 Polk County • Republic Services
 Squirrels Taxi • The Car Doctor
 The Grand Hotel • West Valley Hospital
 Whites Collision Service

Next season begins the first Thursday in May 2017!

<http://www.exploredallasoregon.org/bounty-market.html>

Hosted by **DALLAS AREA VISITORS CENTER** 503-623-2564

Facebook.com/bountymarket