

Filling the Vacant City Council Seat

STAFF REPORT

11/25/2025

There is one vacancy on the City Council currently from George Chancellor's resignation prior to his term expiration. This seat also would remain vacant had Mr. Chancellor completed his term, as not enough parties filed for the open seats during Election time for the terms beginning in January 2026.

Two letters of interest have been submitted by Alex Blackburn and Carly Harp. See attached.

Applicants have been encouraged to attend the meeting either in person or via Zoom in the event the Council members have questions for each applicant.

The City Charter states in Section 2.09: Filling Vacancy on Council –

“When a vacancy occurs in the office of council member, the position shall be considered open and subject to nomination and election at the next general municipal election, except the term of office shall be limited to the unexpired term of the person who originally created the vacancy. Pending such election and qualification the council shall appoint, by the affirmative vote of four (4) council members, a person possessing the qualifications for office required by law and this Charter, within 30 days of the vacancy to hold the office until the successor is elected and qualified.”

The Council must make a motion to nominate one candidate, and then a second must be made prior to any discussion. Public Comment must also be considered prior to a call for the vote. The vote must be at least four in support of the nominated candidate.

The appointed candidate must then take their Oath of Office so the Clerk can get it to the Gallatin County Election Administrator prior to the next meeting. This appointment will terminate on 12/31/2027.