

Please tell us the following information about yourself:

Name: Eric Klinkhammer

Position Running For: Post Falls City Council, Precinct Committeeman

Political website (currently inactive, but I like the name and will re-use): www.mrpostfalls.com.

Business website: www.cdarentagoat.com

Tell us a little about yourself and your family, how long you have lived in the area and your occupation.

I have lived in Kootenai county since June 2020, when I moved here to avoid the covid restrictions. I work as a software engineer remotely, and also have a side business where I rent goats (mostly to friends).

Please answer the following questions:

1. Do you have experience as an elected official and if so, what was your position, and how would you describe your voting record?

No.

2. Please tell us about your activity as a Republican. Have you previously voted for candidates of other parties? If yes, explain.

As a Republican, I attend and speak at various party and local meetings, including the state Young Republicans and NIC board meetings. I have volunteered and helped with local campaigns. I put on bumper stickers for recommended candidates. In past years I have marched in parades.

I have basically voted Republican since becoming a tax paying member of society after school. I voted for Bundy instead of Brad Little.

3. What is the purpose of government?

Ideally, the government exists to provide for the collective defense and a limited subset of services, including a legal system, basic infrastructure and utilities, and enforcement of rights.

Living with other people in a shared location requires abiding by a social contract and respecting shared views on property use / ownership; government is the enforcement of that social contract.

4. Describe why you are running for this particular office. What are your qualifications? What are your goals?

For city council, my goal is to keep Post Falls as great of a place to live for my children and grandchildren as it is for me, which entails owning a home, being able to raise a family, and not eating the bugs.

Home ownership is currently a challenge for many young people, including many young families. While there are certain economic realities that city council cannot change, one thing that makes housing less attainable for young married couples is the lack of attainable starter homes. This is at least partly due to government zoning regulation, and I would work with my fellow city council members to amend the city comprehensive plan with an eye toward encouraging families to own their homes.

I believe this town should be more supportive of homesteading and growing our own food, which includes everything from lowering the acreage limit for small animals like Nigerian dwarf goats to limiting the ability of HOAs to restrict gardens and chickens.

Disclaimer: I am a landlord and I own a goat renting business.

For precinct committeemen, I am an engaged young person. I will knock on doors, host events, and generally participate in the process.

5. Describe experiences where you are or have been engaged such as non-profit organizations, clubs, churches, boards, commissions, etc., where you have been of service to others.

Currently, I volunteer at church to work the AV and live streaming equipment every Tuesday and most Sundays. I organize and host men's and general fellowship for the church. I run a monthly Bible study outside of church. I volunteer as a mentor for a local First robotics team, and help out at the various robotic competitions held every winter.

On the civic side, I have served as a poll worker for several elections now.

Previously, I organized various events in graduate school. I was in charge of the Mechanical Engineering graduate student department, and put on various events for students and incoming prospective students (with full control of how the ~\$4,000 was spent). I also started an inter-collegiate Taekwondo league between Oregon and various Washington schools that met for tournaments and clinics.

6. Do you describe yourself as fiscally conservative? Please, elaborate.

Yes.

For me, this has two parts. The first is that spending more than you make is unwise, and this applies to governments as well. The second is that whatever you subsidize, you incentivize. The government should not be in the business of encouraging dependence on it, and certainly shouldn't be doing so on credit.

7. Do you consider yourself socially conservative? Please elaborate.

Yes.

I believe the basic building block of society is the family, and society - community, church, and government - should be focused on supporting parents raising Godly children.

8. Describe which party platform best aligns with your positions on public policy (Republican, Democrat, Libertarian or Constitutional Party) and where you disagree with that platform.

I align with the Republican party platform. I lean libertarian on some issues (abolish the ATF), but do not meaningfully differ on any issue that I would impact if elected.

9. Do you have any history of tax liens, criminal record, bankruptcy or conflict of interest that may affect your future decisions or desirability to be voted into office?

No.

10. Describe how you will make yourself available to your constituents and vote as their representative with FORTITUDE, adhering to the values and answers you have stated above.

I view the two positions (city councilman and precinct committeeman) as different with respect to the engagement that I reasonably expect.

For city council, I view engagement as having three distinct pillars: being available immediately before and after city council meetings, being responsive to constituent calls and emails, and being present in the community to address constituents and hear concerns. For meetings I would aim to give everyone who wanted a chance to speak. For communication, I would maintain a 3 day SLA on all emails and voicemails. For community engagement, I would attend some sort of event on a quarterly basis.

For precinct committeemen, I would aim to knock on every door once per election cycle. I regularly host events at my house (Bible studies, game nights, church fellowship events), and I could invite politically interested people over for occasional events. It may be a better idea to tap into existing block parties, although it is probably too late to organize anything for summer 2023.