



Application for Appointment to Council

Duties and Responsibilities

The City operates under a Council-Mayor form of government. The seven-member City Council serves as the non-partisan legislative body of the City.

The Camas City Council is the legislative authority of the City of Camas.

The Council is responsible for setting policy, adopting the annual budget, adopting laws, determining the services to be provided and the funding levels for those services, and confirming the Mayor's appointments of citizens to its advisory boards commissions and committees.

The duties of a City Council Member will likely involve an average minimum commitment of 20-40 hours per month for preparation, participation, and attendance at various meetings and community activities.

Beyond the broad duties previously mentioned, Council Member duties include, but are not limited to:

- Attendance is required at City Council meetings, which are held on the first and third Monday evenings of each month, from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm and occasionally later.
- From time to time, the City Council or Mayor may call special City Council meetings to handle city business.
- Attendance is also required at the Council's Annual Planning Session usually held over a weekend in January.
- Council Members are expected to serve on Council Sub-Committees, regional boards, and commissions, and to represent the City Council at various community functions. These various meetings and functions occur normally during the evenings but may also occur on some weekends and during some weekdays.
- Some travel is expected locally, regionally, and/or within the State of Washington involving various organizations of which the City of Camas is a member. Council Members may also, at their discretion, travel and attend training, education and/or participate in other organizations at the local, regional, state, or in some instances, on the national level. Travel, education, and training expenses for local, regional, state, and national activities are reimbursed in accordance with City policy applicable to all employees and City officials, subject to the budgetary limit set for each Council Member and for the City Council as a whole.

The stipend for a Council Member is \$1,224.00 per month plus a \$75 per month technology allowance.

Notice: The term of this appointment, for the vacated Council Member position, is anticipated to run April 2025, thru November 25, 2025 (unfulfilled term end). If the successful candidate is interested in continuing to serve as a Council Member, they would need to run in November 2025 for the position's unexpired 2-year term. Candidates interested in running for this office, should check with Clark County Elections for the special filing dates. The phone number for the elections department is (564) 397-2345.

Application Questions

IMPORTANT! This online form will not save; it must be completed in its entirety all at once. It is recommended that you familiarize yourself with all the required fields, on this tab and the Supplemental Questions tab, in order to return and complete it at all once:

1. **Application** (digitally signed)
2. **One-page cover letter upload** indicating your interest and general qualifications for the position
3. **Resume upload** (no more than 2 pages)
4. **Answers to the Supplemental Questions** (no more than 2 pages)
5. **Voter registration card upload**
6. **Declaration and Affidavit of Candidacy; notary signature and seal required**

The timeline for filling the Council vacancy is as follows:

March 14, 2025 (Friday): Applications due to City staff by 5:00 pm

April 8, 2025 (Tuesday): Special Meeting at 4:00 pm is scheduled to conduct candidate interviews followed by an Executive Session and council vote. The new Council Member will be sworn in on Monday, April 21, 2025, approximately 7:00 pm.

To be considered, your application must be complete and received by the City staff at Camas City Hall (616 NE 4th Avenue) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025. Additional written information after this date will not be accepted, unless requested by the City Council.

Inquiries and questions pertaining to this process or documentation should be directed to:

City Clerk's Office

616 NE 4th Avenue
Camas, WA 98607

Contact Phone: (360) 834-6864 Email Address: administration@cityofcamas.us

Application

First Name * Gary (Garold)

Last Name * Gaskill

Physical Home Address * Street Address

Address Line 2

City

Camas

Postal / Zip Code

98607

State / Province / Region

Washington

Country

United States

Email *

Contact Phone *

Other Phone

Eligibility Requirements, Notification and Signature

A Council Member for the City of Camas must have continuously resided within City limits for a minimum of one year and be a registered voter in Camas, Washington. Must currently reside within the Ward where the opening exists.

IF you hold, participate in, or are involved in any contracts with the City, AND/OR you hold any other elected public office, PLEASE provide those details in your cover letter

Are you a registered voter in Camas, WA? Yes

Voter Registration Card*

You can get it online at Voter Portal (votewa.gov), enter your details, in the left pane go to "Voter Registration" and save this screenshot in any manner to upload.

GaskillVoterRegScreenShot.jpg

54.11KB

To confirm Residency and Ward, go to [MapsOnline, Clark County WA. GIS](#). Enter your address on the "Search" tab to confirm that your address is within Camas Ward 2.

Do you reside within Ward 2 of the City of Camas? Yes

How long have you been a resident of the City of Camas? 22 years

How long have you lived at your current address? 22 years

Previous Address

If you have lived at your current address for less than 12 months, please list your previous address.

Street Address

Address Line 2

City

State / Province / Region

Postal / Zip Code

Country

Length of Time at Previous Address

Financial Interest or Business?*

Do you, or any family member residing in your household, have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that conducts business with the City of Camas?

No

Washington State Qualification*

I am legally qualified to serve in this capacity.

Yes

Attachment Cover Letter*

CoverLetter.docx

43.83KB

(1 page limit)

Attachment Resume*

ResumeCouncil5.docx

33.99KB

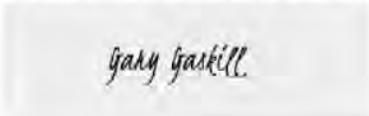
(2 page limit)

Please note that:

- Once a Council Member application is filed with the City, it is a public record available to the public.
- The applications received from all candidates who meet the minimum requirements of state law will be posted on the City of Camas website as part of the Council's meeting packet the week of the initial interview.
- If appointed, you will be required by state law to file a personal financial disclosure statement with the Washington Public Disclosure Commission (www.pdc.wa.gov).

Signature*

As an applicant, I declare that I am qualified for appointment to this public office and acknowledge the information provided on this application will be available to the public.



Gary Gaskill

Supplemental Questions

IMPORTANT! This online form will not save. Be sure to complete your application, voter registration card upload, cover letter and resume uploads, and the entirety of these supplemental questions before submitting.

Suggestion - prepare your answers ahead of time and when ready to submit the application, copy and paste them into the fields.

Question 1. *

1. Why do you want to serve on the Camas City Council?

I spent most of my life not involved in politics, confident that things were going well and government was "on auto-pilot" Then COVID-19 happened, and schools, churches & small businesses closed, but I could still shop at Costco, Home Depot & Walmart. It wasn't right and it wasn't fair. I care very much about the citizens of Camas and understand clearly that the city we live in has a great impact on our quality of life, and it doesn't happen unless we are fully participating. I am prepared to do the work required to understand the underlying problems & help guide the city to provide the vital services people need.

Question 2. *

What experiences, talents or skills would you bring to the city government that you would like to highlight?

a. Having been an engineer, an inventor, manager and strategic planner in business for over 45 years, I believe I can bring my analytical skills & business judgment to ensure the city grows but maintains its livability while not allowing the price of housing to prevent most people from living here.

b. I have done much market research, but just as important is the ability to put yourself in someone else's situation to understand the why behind the research results. I have the ability to listen and understand people's hopes, dreams, and fears, which I can use to provide better services.

Question 3. *

What forms of public service or volunteering have you been involved in; and/or what other elected bodies have you sought a seat or been elected to? Provide details regarding the dates, organization/agency names, roles and responsibilities.

a. Formed a volunteer group May, 2022 on NextDoor dedicated to cleaning up graffiti in Camas as quickly as possible.

b. Certified Election Observer since 2021 in Clark County, WA.

c. Currently Precinct Committee Officer in Camas elected Nov. 2020, helping with voter education, election integrity, canvassing, voter registration etc.

d. Served through my local churches at food banks, homeless shelters, etc., for the past 40 years.

e. On Finance Committee & ran for School Board in Tigard Tualatin SD, 1990's

f. Volunteer in Service to America for one year focused on housing for the poor, including landlord-tenant rights & responsibilities, minimum dwelling standards, and inspections in Omaha, Nebraska, 1972.

Question 4. *

What is your vision for Camas four or five years from now? Explain how you would lead the community toward your vision.

I envision a Camas that continues to be a vibrant and inclusive community—with opportunity for all. In the next four or five years, I see us nurturing our businesses, enlarging community engagement and working toward truly affordable housing.

By engaging in serious dialog with business leaders we can create policies that foster more living-wage jobs, with a larger tax base. The mill property offers a transformative opportunity. We imagine its future, after environmental clean-up, as a community-centered hub—with green spaces, retail shops, and cultural venues. However, in the interim, I want to collaborate with Georgia Pacific to revitalize the Camas mill and restore as many jobs as possible.

I'd champion continued community-driven solutions, like partnering with local businesses, faith groups, and grassroots organizations to enhance participatory programs that uplift public spaces. We can do more to promote & encourage neighbors coming together to erase graffiti, steward our parks, and weave a stronger, more community oriented Camas.

I am totally committed to affordable housing, but much of what we are doing today is ineffective or even creates barriers. Current low-income housing waiting lists are closed or have year's long wait times. Building codes prioritize profit and ultra-safety over affordability. For instance, scrapping mandatory fire sprinklers systems could lower construction costs considerably yet still maintain safety through effective smoke detectors to make houses more affordable. Our urban growth boundaries do reduce suburban sprawl, but make lot prices, even small ones, unaffordable within in the boundary, while a minimum of five acre plots outside the boundary are not affordable either. In addition, as we transition from single-family homes to more diverse housing options like townhouses and apartments, they come with lower revenue per person, compared to larger homes. As a result, we must consider increased taxes and the share that our businesses currently contribute.

Camas is a great town but my vision isn't just about maintaining what we have—it's about building a town that better reflects our shared values.

Question 5. *

In your opinion, what are the top two or three most significant challenges facing the City of Camas today? How would you propose to address these challenges?

The biggest challenges I see are the projected declining revenue per resident, need for critical evaluation of project & program priorities and county, state & national unfunded regulations.

Our declining revenue per resident must be addressed either with higher tax rates or preferably new businesses to increase the tax base. I want to be an ambassador for Camas and recruit new businesses.

We need to re-evaluate our priorities. Our fire department operations cost about 4 million dollars per year while our losses due to fire are only about 1/2 million dollars. Meanwhile, many roads & bridges are in need of repair, but we currently spend less than 2 million dollars per year on streets. I would review the citizen's priorities and propose ways to reprioritize our budget.

Many of our problems and expensive projects, including lake & PFOA pollution, construction standards & growth boundaries that make housing less affordable are controlled by higher level government requirements that we are required to implement without funding provided of understanding of the consequences of these mandates. I would push back on these regional, state and national requirements that come without adequate funds to implement them.

Declaration and Affidavit

Click the link below to download the affidavit form:

[Declaration and Affidavit of Candidacy](#)

This must be notarized and emailed to administration@cityofcamas.us or hand-delivered to the Clerk's Office at 616 NE 4th Avenue.

3/10/2025

Gary Gaskill

[REDACTED]

Camas, WA 98607

Camas City Council

616 NE 4th Ave

Camas, WA 98607

Dear Camas City Council Members,

As required for application, this is my cover letter indicating my interest and general qualifications for Camas City Council.

Now that I am retired and not yet too old, I feel I can represent the people's interest with hard work and dedication. I have no special interest to represent other than those of the people in a well-run city government. Our recent experience with Covid-19 shutting down schools, churches & small businesses while allowing the big box stores like Costco, Walmart & Home Depot to operate was not only unfair, but quite damaging to our community, particularly our children. I am now more determined to do what I can to serve the City of Camas.

I have many years' experience in business, engineering, standard's boards and strategic planning. My experience with business & finance will help me review city finances & budgets and communicate effectively with local businesses. My marketing degree & experience can help interpret survey results and project how the Council's various resolutions may be interpreted by the people. My experience in engineering will provide a rational view on public works proposals and ability to evaluate the various tradeoffs associated with those proposals. My experience as a director on several boards gives me an understanding of great responsibility of the position and deliberative process required to craft public policy. Years of experience with strategic planning will help us evaluate our long term plans and prioritize the various projects based on the long term implications.

If selected, I would be honored to serve on the Council as a member of the team. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Gaskill

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] cell

Gary Gaskill

██████████
Camas, WA 98607

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

A dedicated customer-oriented professional with years of successful experience recruiting and negotiating contracts with Internet content providers. A straightforward communicator who can develop strong customer relations through a deep understanding of their business needs. Skilled at analyzing businesses, identifying needs, problem solving, and presenting alternatives to achieve results.

Business Development	Market Research
Account Management	Relationship Building
Business Analysis	Business Negotiations

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Manager Receiver Design at AT&E (Start up acquired by Seiko Epson Corp.)

Manager SW Simulation Models at Tektronix

Design Engineering Manager Micro-processor emulators at Tektronix

Test and Evaluation Engineer at Tektronix

Noise and Vibration Research Engineer at Hyster Company

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sharp Labs, Camas, WA

North American Research and Development Subsidiary of Sharp Corp.

Business Development / Market Research

2008-2013

Recruit and negotiate contracts for apps on Sharp's smart TVs with Internet content providers, including Google & NBC, and many others.

- Developed long-term North American TV product roadmaps based on market research and analysis of technical trends.
- Proposed innovative scrolling sidebar for displaying sports scores, weather forecast, traffic, etc., on smart TVs quickly, conveniently, and unobtrusively.

HDMI Forum Board of Directors / Chairman Marketing Group

2011-2012

Elected by member companies as board member and Chairman of the Marketing Working Group. Participated in board, marketing, and technical working group meetings for development of the HDMI v2.0 video interface specification.

- Lead assessed market position and technical competitive position for HDMI relative to Display Port, Ethernet, USB, etc.
- Developed short and long-term strategies for market requirements and future specifications.
- Developed guidance & overviews from the board to technical and marketing groups regarding specification goals and organizational structure.

Senior Research Engineer

2000-2007

Research market and technical trends for consumer electronics products.

- Led HomePlug AV marketing requirements and was on the HomePlug Board of Directors.
- Researched market and technical trends for North American TVs, portable media players, VoIP phones, small business printers, copiers, and faxes.

Director of Systems Engineering - Seiko Communication Systems 1991- 2000

Subsidiary of Seiko Epson Corp.

Director of team of 15 regarding specification, design, development, and test of communication system.

- Wrote advanced wireless communication system requirements, lead system architecture, user interface design, system-wide testing, and communication protocol standardization
- System architect for \$7 million Department of Transportation SWIFT project to communicate traffic information wirelessly to computers, automobiles, and wristwatch devices in Seattle, Washington.
- Director of multi-disciplined group covering digital & analog electronics, integrated circuits, "C" and assembly code, wireless communication protocols & web-based tools.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

MBA - Masters in Marketing - Marylhurst University
BS - Bachelors in Engineering Physics - Oregon State University
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer (Oregon)

PATENTS

Product innovator with over 40 patents (under Garold Gaskill) in various areas including communication protocols, user interfaces, antennas and mechanical design.

SKILLS

Excellent research skills presented with simple & clear writing style
Long-range strategic planning and systems analysis experience

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