



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
For the Meeting of September 22, 2025

Title/Subject

Public Notice of the 2026 Primary Election- Seeking City Official Candidates

Summary and Background

Notice is hereby given that on May 19, 2026, an election will be held in the City of Hermiston, Umatilla County, Oregon for office of the following:

- Ward Councilors- Four-year term beginning 01/01/2027 to 12/31/2030
 - Ward I
 - Ward II
 - Ward III
 - Ward IV
- Municipal Judge – Two-year term beginning 01/01/2027 to 12/31/2028

Elections shall be nonpartisan. Your choice of candidates will be presented upon the official ballot, conducted by mail, and shall be voted upon by all qualified voters of the City.

The City Charter states the Ward Specific Council and Municipal Judge candidates will run in the Primary Election. If there are two (2) or less candidates then the May Primary Election will determine who will be elected into office.

However, if three (3) or more candidates file, then the May Primary Election shall be considered the primary election and the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be the nominees whose names shall appear on the ballot for the November General Election. Should any candidate receive a majority of all votes cast for the office at the May Primary Election, then the name of that candidate shall be printed separately on the ballot at the November General Election under the designation equivalent to “Vote for One” and no other name shall be printed on the ballot in opposition to such candidate. One space, however, shall be left following such name in which the voter may insert the name of any person for whom the voter wishes to cast a ballot.

Candidates must file for office by submitting their completed declaration of candidacy to the Elections Officer/City Recorder from September 11, 2025 to no later than 5:00pm on March 10, 2026. Forms are available in the Administrative Office at City Hall, 180 NE 2nd St, Hermiston, OR 97838 and on the City's website at: <https://www.hermiston.gov/citycouncil/page/elections>

Attached you will find the Public Notice for the Primary Election. Attachment A is being published in the Hermiston Herald on September 17th, 2025 and February 4th, 2026 and posted at the following locations: City Hall, Library, Post Office, and on the City's website and social media sites.

Tie-In to Council Goals

Goal 4: Community Engagement: Improve engagement and connection with the community.

Fiscal Information

Apart from a modest publication cost, there is no financial impact.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

NA

Recommended Action/Motion

Information Only.

Submitted By:

Elections Officer/City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong