Sir/Ma'am,

My name is Chad Cassady and I live at 524 Sweetwater Street here in Lander. I would like to express my interest in serving as a city council member for Ward 2 for the interim period until the next election in the Fall of 2026. Please find below a short biography which helps to explain who I am and how my family and I arrived in Lander.

My wife Summer and I are both originally from central Texas. I attended college (BA in Political Science and Philosophy) and graduate school (MA in Political Science) in Texas before enlisting in the US Marines in February 2001.

My initial assignment was to southern California. While assigned there I deployed three times; two of which were as part of the initial invasion of Iraq in 2003 and later, in 2004, was to areas around Fallujah. I was severely injured during the Battle of Fallujah and medically evacuated back to the United States. Early the next year, I was able to make a full recovery and found fit to continue to serve in the Marines. In late 2005, I was selected to attend Officer Candidate School where I was commissioned as a 2d Lieutenant. Following commissioning, I returned to California where I completed three more overseas deployments; including returning to Iraq in 2007. Following this assignment, I was selected to serve as the infantry exchange officer to 40 Commando, Royal Marines in Taunton, England. This assignment saw two additional deployments including a deployment to Afghanistan in 2012/2013. After this assignment with 40 Commando, I deployed a fourth time to Iraq; taking an infantry company to Baghdad to reinforce the US Embassy for 7 months against threats from ISIS. Upon returning to the US, I was selected to attend Command and Staff College in Canberra, Australia where I earned a second Master's Degree, (MA in Military and Defense Studies), from the Australian National University. Upon completion, I was assigned to the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California where I oversaw training programs, taught courses, and evaluated units conducting large scale exercises.

During my 20 years of service, I was assigned overseas for approximately 4 years and deployed nine times; five of which were to combat operations. I was awarded the Silver Star for actions in the Battle of Fallujah in 2004, have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal twice, and have received two additional awards for valor in combat.

In 2019, my wife Summer and I were ready to move on from the pace of life in the US Marines and began to look towards Wyoming as a final home, where we would raise our family. Summer and I purchased our home here in Lander in 2019. She and our boys moved here in 2020, and I joined them in December. I completed 20 years of active-duty service and retired from the US Marines in the spring of 2021.

Following retirement, I attended gunsmithing school in Trinidad, Colorado. In 2023, opened a small business here in Lander where I repair firearms and build custom rifles. I had a TS/SCI clearance for the last approximately 11 years of my career, am a Federally Licensed Firearms Dealer (FFL), and have no criminal history.

My initial interest in attending city council meetings was prompted by the city-wide discussion about rezoning efforts and my lack of familiarity with how local government operates. Constant deployments overseas and the requirement to move our household more than a dozen times over 20 years made participation in local government quite difficult. Now, with Lander as our permanent home, I have developed a desire to learn, understand, and contribute where I can to help our city work through some of the challenges of governance.

Thank you for your consideration,

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