

Mark T. Vessey

PO Box 1097, McCleary, WA 98557
360-791-4723 | markt.vessey@gmail.com

September 14, 2026

Mayor Andrea Dahl
City of McCleary
100 S. 3rd Street
McCleary, WA 98557

Dear Mayor Dahl:

I would like to be considered for appointment to the vacant seat on the McCleary City Council. Having lived in McCleary for nearly all my life, I care deeply about this community and would welcome the opportunity to serve it.

My more than 29 years as a civil servant have given me a strong understanding of rules, regulations, and procedures, along with a commitment to fairness and integrity in public service. My current role requires careful attention to policy and process, experience I would bring to the Council's work.

I believe local government works best when councilmembers listen carefully, come prepared, and communicate clearly with residents and one another. If appointed, I would work respectfully with fellow councilmembers, take differing viewpoints seriously, and support decisions that earn public trust. My priorities would include maintaining essential services and encouraging responsible growth while preserving the qualities that make McCleary a great place to live.

I understand the time and preparation this role requires and am ready to make that commitment. I would welcome the work of reviewing budget priorities, planning for sustainable growth, and addressing public safety and other concerns residents bring to the Council. In each of these areas, I would consider community input and the interests of the city as a whole.

Thank you for considering my interest in this appointment. I would appreciate the chance to meet with you and the Council to discuss my qualifications and how I could best serve McCleary.

Sincerely,



Mark T. Vessey

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE MCCLEARY CITY COUNCIL

APPLICANT INFORMATION

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Mark Vessey

Address PO Box 1097, 604 W Ash St

Home Phone 360-791-4723 Work Phone _____

Email Address Markt.vessey@gmail.com

COVER LETTER & RESUME

Please submit a one-page cover letter and a resume of not more than 3 pages along with this application.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

Please respond in writing to the following questions using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as a McCleary Councilmember?
2. What strengths would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address?
4. Briefly describe your current/past community involvement and how this would benefit the City?
5. What do you consider the primary roles of a City Councilmember?
6. Is there anything else you would like to add to help us get to know you better?

Please return this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to McCleary City Hall at 100 S. 3rd Street or via email at juliep@cityofmccleary.com no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2026. Applications received after this time will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Julie Pope, Clerk-Treasurer
City of McCleary
100 S. 3rd St.
McCleary, WA 98557

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Supplemental Questions

1. Why are you interested in serving as a McCleary Councilmember?

I have always been passionate about community service and making a positive impact where I live. I would welcome the opportunity to use my skills and experience to help make McCleary an even better place for the people who call it home. Serving on the City Council would allow me to contribute directly to the community and help shape decisions that affect its future.

2. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

I would bring strong communication and collaboration skills, along with a commitment to fiscal responsibility and accountability. I value thoughtful decision-making, respectful discussion, and working with others to find practical solutions that serve the community well.

3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address?

My three highest priorities are responsible and sustainable growth, economic development, and public safety. In addressing each of these areas, I also believe city government should remain transparent, accountable, and responsive to the needs and concerns of residents.

4. Briefly describe your current/past community involvement and how this would benefit the City?

I currently serve on both the City of McCleary Planning Commission and the Civil Service Commission, and I am honored to serve in both roles. These experiences have given me a better understanding of city processes, the importance of thoughtful public decision-making, and the responsibility that comes with serving the community.

5. What do you consider the primary roles of a City Councilmember?

I believe the primary roles of a City Councilmember include setting policy, overseeing the budget and finances, representing the community, guiding land use and zoning decisions, and providing appropriate oversight of city services and operations.

The Council is responsible for adopting local laws, ordinances, resolutions, and long-term policies; reviewing and approving the City's annual budget and expenditures; and listening to residents so community needs are reflected in public decisions. Councilmembers also play an important role in planning for responsible growth through land-use and zoning decisions.

Oversight is equally important. Councilmembers should remain informed about city services, infrastructure, public safety, and departmental performance while respecting the day-to-day responsibilities of the City Manager, Clerk-Treasurer, and city staff.

6. Is there anything else you would like to add to help us get to know you better?

My connection to McCleary goes back to my earliest years. I have lived here since 1994, but my family roots in the community extend much further. My mother was born and raised in McCleary, grew up on North Summit Road, and attended McCleary School before going on to Elma High School, where she met my father. They later married on West Ash Street and began building their life together. My grandparents also lived in McCleary for many years, first on North Summit Road and later on West Ash Street, before moving to the Elma-Hicklin Road area.

Although I spent my formative years in Aberdeen, McCleary was always a constant in my life. I have many fond memories of family gatherings here and of attending the annual Bear Festival, traditions that helped build my lasting connection to this community.

With more than 28 years of experience as a civil servant, I also bring a strong understanding of rules, regulations, procedures, and the importance of fairness and integrity in public service. My current role requires careful adherence to policy and process, and I believe that background would serve me well in carrying out the responsibilities of a City Councilmember.