



**Santaquin City**  
275 West Main Street  
Santaquin, UT 84655  
PH: 801-754-3211  
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Santaquin City is accepting applications to fill an at-large vacancy on the City Council. The term of office for this appointment is through 12:00 noon on the first Monday of January 2024. Those interested in being appointed to fill the vacancy must meet the Requirements for Office outlined below and shall submit a complete and notarized application to the Santaquin City Recorder\* no later than Friday, November 19, 2021 at 1:00pm.

Applicants to fill this vacancy will be interviewed by the Mayor and City Council in an open public meeting of the City Council to be held at 6:00pm on November 23, 2021 at the City Council Chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Public Safety Building, 275 West Main Street, Santaquin, UT. It is anticipated that the Mayor and Council will then select an applicant to fill the vacancy during the same meeting.

## **City Council Member Appointment Application**

Name: BetsyMontoya\_\_\_\_\_

Address: 266 S 730 E  
Santaquin\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( 385-314-9481 ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email:  
\_\_\_\_\_elizabeth.montoya@aggieamil.usu.edu\_\_\_\_\_

Number of years as a Santaquin resident: 15 \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Citizen (Y/N) y \_\_\_\_\_ Registered voter? (Y/N)  
y \_\_\_\_\_

### **Requirements for Office:**

1. Must be at least 18 years of age, a United States citizen and a registered voter of Santaquin City;
2. Must have resided within the boundaries of Santaquin City for at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding the date of appointment;
3. Must not be a convicted felon; must not have been convicted of treason or of an election crime; must not have been declared mentally incompetent; and must not have had the right to hold public office restricted pursuant to Article IV, Section 6, of the Utah Constitution and U.C.A. 20A-2-101.5.

I, Betsy Montoya, certify that I have read and understand the Requirements for Office listed above to file as a potential City Council member in Santaquin City, Utah, and verify that I meet said requirements and understand the legal qualifications for office.

Elizabeth B Montoya \_\_\_\_\_  
State of Utah \_\_\_\_\_ Signature  
County of Utah \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
20\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide responses to the following questions. A cover letter and resume may be submitted with this application. Note: Any information submitted with this application is considered public, will be provided to the Mayor and City Council, and will be made available to the public in the City Council Agenda Packet for the November 30, 2021 meeting.**

- 1) Please provide information about your background in Santaquin City and your interest in serving on the Santaquin City Council. How will you be an asset to the Council? Include any professional or civic experience you may have had. (NOTE: Professional or civic experience is not a requirement to be appointed to the Council). You may attach a cover letter and resume

Having lived in Santquin for 15 years I have seen a lot of change and growth. I have met many people who have lived here their entire lives and many who are recent move ins- all of whom are good, hard working people who bring vitality and diversity to our city. I believe it is important to serve and contribute to whatever community I live in. I first helped coach youth soccer, helped with the last general plan, then served on the planning commission for five years before being elected to the city council. While serving on the city council I was given various assignments, which I fulfilled diligently- planning commission liaison, ULCT representative, created and mentored the Youth City Council, event representative, council representative for the current general plan update, attended nearly every event, ribbon cutting and extra activity which the youth council was asked to help with, and served each year to help with Orchard Days. I have participated on hiring committees, bid review committees, attended multiple conferences and trainings and implement what I learned to better serve the city, its residents and employees. I have built relationships with those serving at the State level in order to communicate the needs and priorities of Santaquin and how decisions made at the State level can either positively or negatively impact our residents and our ability to provide services to them. I bring a unique perspective as an educator and a family scientist. I bring the perspective of a woman, wife and mother. Very few women serve in government and their insight and perspectives are needed at the table.

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2) What do you perceive as the three best things about Santaquin City that set it apart from other cities?

The employees and residents of Santaquin are second to none.

The unique history, surrounding nature and agriculture are precious resources.

The youth of Santaquin are future leaders and the best to be found anywhere. The Youth City Council members are active and involved, more so than most other cities. There are more youth in the city who can be encouraged in different ways to serve and take pride in our community.

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3) Please share a current or past issue in Santaquin that you are passionate about and how you feel your appointment as a City Council member can impact that issue.

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\_\_\_\_ I am passionate about the youth of our city, opportunities for them to learn, be involved and serve. I have spent hundreds of hours serving with and mentoring the youth of Santaquin and desire to continue that service. As the creator of the Youth Council, I am their advocate, champion and learn from them as I teach.

I am passionate about building bridges within our local area as well as with those serving at the State and Federal levels so that our needs can be heard and remembered. It is important to convey that unfunded mandates and pressures from State and Federal government put undue pressure on local government and that decisions on local issues ought to be made at the local level. Communication with State and Federal leaders, as well as regional leaders, helps our city by making our needs known. This takes time, consistent effort and patience. There are things we, as city leaders, have authority over and things we do not. Building bridges works better than tearing down others as we strive to protect our interests.

I am passionate about having a community in which all feel welcome and safe and have opportunities for the quality of life they seek. Growth is not easy. As a community located along the I-15 Wasatch Front corridor we



will continue to grow and feel pressures from the State in the housing crisis. I will always advocate local decisions be made at the local level. I will fight to keep out water regulated at the local level, to work with UDOT on transportation challenges, to complete the General plan process and see that it is implemented, to represent children and families and make decisions that are data based and not politically based. I serve with dignity and respect. I represent Santaquin in a way that helps residents learn truth, feel kindness and feel welcomed.

I am passionate about upholding the US Constitution and the rights that each citizen is afforded thereby. One example is the bundle of rights that are granted to each property owner. Making land use decisions is challenging on a good day. Property owners have the right to develop their property and the city council has the duty to balance the needs of the community while honoring those property rights. My experience on the planning commission has provided opportunities to learn more about zoning, land use, State law, and to recognize ways that zoning and city code protect residents and how those can be improved over time.

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November 16, 2021

Esteemed Mayor Hunsaker and City Council Members,

This letter is attached to my application to serve out the remaining two years of Council Woman Jennifer Bowman's city council seat, which she chose to vacate on November 2, 2021. My family and I have lived in Santaquin for 15 years. Of all the things to love about Santaquin, I love the people most. I earned my Bachelor and Master's degrees from Utah State University in Family and Human Development. I am an educator by profession. I served on the Planning Commission for five years before being elected to City Council in 2018. With the support of mayor and council, I acted on an idea I had and created the Santaquin Youth City Council in March of 2019 and serving with the youth of our community is one of my favorite activities. They are the future! My next favorite Council responsibilities are walking in the Orchard Days Parade, seeing the community gathered, and getting to know and supporting our amazing employees. Working to get things done has been an exercise in patience. There is so much planning behind the scenes. I understand that service, wise planning and diversity strengthen our community now and for generations to come. I have seen how strong families build the foundation of a community. I am thankful for opportunities to serve and work for the benefit of families and children in Santaquin. I strive to protect natural resources, agriculture, value personal property rights, prepare for the future, and stretch each penny of funds as far as it can go.

We have challenges in our city. We are facing those challenges boldly. Elected leaders and staff are working together toward solutions and improvements. Growth brings challenges. It is also a sign of a strong economy and a great place to live because others want to come and live in Santaquin.

**As you are aware, here are just a few things I envision working on moving forward-**

- **Agriculture-** I have proposed the creation of an Agricultural Advisory Board to include the insights of local farmers on how development is impacting them and other agricultural sites throughout the city. I just announced that on July 1 and it is already being created by ordinance and will happen through cooperation of elected leaders, staff and farmers.
- **Property rights-** Land rights are guaranteed by the United States Constitution. Balancing how a landowner can develop their land and what impacts that development has on the city is very delicate. We are currently in the middle of **updating our general plan**, for which I am currently the council representative, and which will guide us in future development in the city. We are seeking as much public input as possible in this process. I respect the rights of landowners and I honor the US Constitution.
- **City wide trails-** Having the trails master plan updated will allow us to implement plans and seek funding for a trail system. Update the plan for active transportation.
- **Communication-** Hire a communications specialist to help with messaging so that we can better share all the positive and good things happening in the city and offer factual updates on projects and events. Elected leaders and staff have much to share and can improve in this area.
- **Agrotourism-** Support farmers who desire to seek and expand agrotourism opportunities.
- **Youth-** Continue engaging the youth of our city in service and learning.

I shared this quote at meet the Candidates night and it still resonates with me-  
**"A person with an experience is never at the mercy of a person with an opinion."**

Thank you for your consideration.

Most Respectfully,

Betsy Montoya

# Elizabeth Montoya

[Elizabeth.montoya@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.montoya@aggiemail.usu.edu)

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## Education

Utah State University 2002-2005  
Bachelor degree  
Family, Consumer and Human Development

Utah State University 2008-2010  
Masters Degree  
Family and Human Development

## Relevant Work and Service Experience

Santaquin City General plan committee 2012-2013  
Santaquin City Planning Commission Jan. 2013- Dec. 31, 2018  
Santaquin City Council Jan. 2018-current

## Examples of projects, assignments and activities participated in while serving:

- Made at least 13 changes to how and where multi-family housing is permitted in the city.
- Multi-family housing is no longer permitted in the R-8 zone. **This changed was approved September 17, 2019**
- Changed the city code to require commercial for development that fronts onto Main Street in the CBD and MSC zones.
- Created the Youth City Council, which now has 24 members and has given over 500 hours of service to the community in two and half years. They are learning about each department and how city government works.
- Updated Master Plans for transportation, water and sewer.
- Update coming to Master Plans for parks, recreation, trails, and open space for FY2021-2022.
- Continued working with the Forest Service toward re-opening of Santaquin Canyon (**this has been a five-year process thus far**) and the reconstruction has just begun.
- Participated in hiring a full time Fire Chief
- Supporting training and safe equipment for our Public Safety officers
- Building strong teams of employees and organization in every department
- Improvement of the intersection of Highland Rd. and Center Street (Canyon Rd.) which will make this area much safer for residents, especially children.
- Implementing a protocol for requests such as stop signs and cross walks to make decisions based on data and not politics
- Working to get a full-service grocery store
- Increasing our sales tax revenue by 22% and adding more businesses, and more are coming



- We have continued to reclaim water (we are at 2 billion gallons of water) through the sewer treatment facility and reused that water in our irrigation system.
- Our city irrigation is fully metered, so water is not wasted.
- We have achieved the strongest financial situation we have ever had and have the maximum balance permitted by the State of Utah in our rainy-day fund, which cannot exceed 35% of the annual budget.
- We have acquired over \$9 million in grants to go toward city projects such as debris basins, which will help protect homes on the East bench of the city.
- We secured \$50,000 in a grant from MAG (Mountainland Association of Governments) to update the active transportation plan so that we can seek further funding for a trail system throughout the city. We received grants to cover half the cost of the current general plan update.
- Improvements to parks: a basketball court and corn hole to Centennial Park, are adding pickle ball courts, additional restrooms and a playground to the Harvest View Park and are paving the parking lot there; playground and frisbee golf course at Ahlin Park.
- Creating the Cultural Arts Committee- We are increasing the arts in our community and supported a beautiful new mural on the utility building at Centennial Park, hosting concerts in the park and expanding recreational programs, and city-wide celebrations such as Santaquin Holly -days.
- Secured funding for a new city hall which will allow our public safety department to grow as our city grows and provide a safe and healthy meeting place for our seniors and Veterans.
- We have secured funding grants (\$9.71 million= \$4.4 for phase 4 and \$5.3 for phase 5) to go toward expansion of Main Street
- Installed a time stamped recording system for meetings to make it much easier for residents to listen to meetings, or just part of a meeting, and **find out for themselves** what is happening.
- Purchased a small bus to use for Senior Citizen field trip s and Youth Council field trips.
- Serving as the representative for the City at Utah League of Cities and Towns, attended semiannual and annual training conferences each year.
- Serving as the liaison to the planning commission, continuing to read minutes and/or watch live meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month.
- Serving as the General Plan representative for the last year.
- Served as the event representative for three years.
- Participating on hiring committees, salary review committees and interview panels
- Attended nearly every event, ribbon cutting and celebration for four years.
- Contributed over 5,000 hours of individual service to Santaquin City over the last four years.