

Sheri Pierce

From: Jason and Amanda <jandatippetts@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:24 PM
To: Sheri Pierce
Subject: City Council Appointment

Subject: Letter of interest – Valdez City Council Seat

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my interest in serving with the Valdez City Council. I am eager to contribute to our community's growth and well-being, and I believe my unique background and perspectives would be an asset to the council.

My commitment to our community is deeply personal. With children attending Hermon Hutchens Elementary School, Gilson Middle School, and Valdez High School, I have a direct stake in the quality of our education system and have firsthand insight into the needs and concerns of families across different stages of our school system. I am invested in the overall environment of our community and how it shapes the lives of our youth.

Having lived in several states, and internationally, I have had the opportunity to observe and understand diverse approaches to local governance and public service. While living abroad in China I especially came to appreciate and value civic participation. Furthermore, my academic background in political science has equipped me with a strong foundation in governmental processes and public policy. I understand legislative frameworks and am adept at fostering constructive dialogue.

I like to take on projects, and this has helped me develop a broad variety of experiences. Some relevant examples include serving on the board of directors for an athletic conference, receiving training to lead civil first responder activities as the community point of contact for professional emergency response teams, organizing a community cycling club, and volunteering as an instructor to lead church adult and youth discussion groups.

Examples of my prior civic participation include involvement in community initiatives around varied topics such as new bike lanes, traffic control for a community party, a freeway exit design change, and community water contamination concerns around ski resort construction. Although seemingly unrelated, these issues represent my effort to be aware of current issues and to be involved. In each case, I learned the importance of dialogue, understanding political systems, advocacy, and critical thinking. In each case I improved my ability to hold constructive dialogue, problem-solve, and build coalitions.

I confirm that I meet the required qualifications to fill this vacancy, that I can attend the regular council meetings, and I am aware of the council policies and procedures as amended October 17, 2023. Thank you for considering me to fill this vacancy.

Sincerely,

Jason Tippetts
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