

**TOWN OF WOODWAY
COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023
5:15 P.M.**

Woodway Town Hall | 23920 113th Place W. | Woodway, WA

- | | | |
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| 5:15 P.M. | | Call to Order & Roll Call |
| 5:15 P.M. | I | Council Position #4 Candidate Interviews |
| 6:15 P.M. | II | Executive Session for Approximately 15 Minutes to Discuss Candidate Qualifications |
| 6:30 P.M. | III | Council Deliberation |
| 7:00 P.M. | IV | Council Position #4 - Administer Oath of Office |
| 7:00 P.M. | | Adjournment |

All times are approximate.

**Anyone with a disability requiring special accommodations or anyone wishing to make a public comment for this meeting via video or audio connection should contact the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall or call (206)542-4443 before 1:00 p.m. the Thursday preceding the Council Meeting. For TDD relay service, call (206)587-5500, or outside the Seattle area #1-800-833-6388.*

TOWN OF WOODWAY

COUNCILMEMBER APPOINTMENT PROCESS

- A. Anyone interested in applying for the vacant Council seat must submit a letter of interest to the Town Council. In addition to the letter of interest, applicants may submit written responses, which should be no more than 1 page, to two of the questions in “B” below. Applicants will be asked to discuss the questions in “B” orally during the interview process. Written responses are entirely optional. All letters of interest and written responses are due April 24, 2023. Please email them to heidi@townofwoodway.com.
- B. The questions below will be addressed during the oral interviews conducted by the full Council. Applicants may choose to respond in writing to not more than two of the questions prior to the meeting. Written responses are optional. Please limit responses to one page total.
 1. Why do you want to serve on the Town Council?
 2. What experiences, talents or skills would you bring to the Council and the community that you would like to highlight?
 3. What do you feel are the top two issues that the Town is facing today?
 4. How would you deal with a circumstance where you did not vote for/support a decision approved by your Council colleagues?
- C. Applicant Interviews (Held during regular Council meeting on May 1, 2023)
 1. Mayor will open the interviews and explain the process: interviews, possible Council executive session, open discussion by the Council, and then voting during the public meeting. Applicants will be encouraged to leave the Council chambers during other applicants’ interviews.
 2. Applicants will be interviewed in alphabetical order of their last name.
 3. Questions for all applicants:
 - a. Town Council actions or decisions are not always popular with residents. How would you handle a phone call from a resident who is angry with the decision made?
 - b. Follow up questions that may arise from each applicant’s written questionnaire. This may or may not occur, depending on the applicant’s responses.

4. Characteristics that Council may be looking for in an applicant:

- Good fit with existing Councilmembers & Town staff
- Interest in learning about new issues
- Fiscal stewardship
- Strategic thinker
- Sense of community
- Sensitive to Woodway's place/standing in Snohomish County
- Aware of "grey areas," complexities of issues

D. Once all the interviews are completed, Council will adjourn to Executive Session to discuss what characteristics and strengths have been demonstrated that are important in making a selection. Individual applicants' qualifications can be discussed but no polling is allowed.

E. Council returns to regular session to take nominations and vote.

1. Councilmembers will be called in Council position number order to nominate candidates.
2. After all nominations have been made, the Council will discuss the qualifications of the nominated candidates.
3. After the discussion, the nominees will be considered in the order in which they were nominated. The first applicant with the three or more votes constitutes a majority and is therefore elected to fill the Council vacancy.

F. In the event that no candidate receives three votes, the Mayor will ask the Councilmembers to discuss the qualifications of the candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Then another vote would be taken in the same order as the original voting, including only the candidates that received the highest number of votes.

APPLICANT INTERVIEW ORDER

Dena Dewar

Steven Mitchell

Nancy Neuman

Craig Paladeau

Marcus Tomici

Jim Willett

COUNCILMEMBER POSITION ORDER

Rajeev Thakur, Council Position 1

John Brock, Council Position 2

Brian Bogen, Council Position 3

Elizabeth Mitchell, Council Position 5

April 26, 2023

This letter is to express my interest in the Woodway Council position vacancy. The following is a brief introduction and why I would make a good appointment for councilor.

I am a 46-year-old resident of Woodway, moving here from the Seattle area in 2021. I have been married to my husband Scott for 18 years who grew up in Woodway. We have two teenage daughters, Kayla (15) & Isabella (14) who attend Kings Private School. After living in Seattle for over 20 years we both wanted something different for our family. Woodway has a sense of community and rich history that we love.

I was a bank manager for Bank of America before leaving in 2007 to start a family. Our daughters are 10.5 months apart, so the first few years of their lives are a blur. Once they started school, I joined the PTA. From 2014-2018 I served as the PTA Vice-President & President for Viewlands Elementary. I greatly enjoyed my time there and created friendships that will last a lifetime. In 2017 I began working with my husband Scott as his Production Assistant for Cornerstone Home Lending doing mortgages. I have proven I can literally work with anyone.

Throughout the course of my life, I have perfected my skills at problem solving, prioritizing and communication. I have had a passion for a long time to take part in local government. Now is the perfect time as I have the knowledge and time to devote to this important position.

Thank you,

Dena Dewar

(206)280-7344

23946 West Woodway Lane

Heidi K. S. Napolitino

From: Dr Steven Mitchell MD PhD <drstevenmitchell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 6:48 PM
To: Heidi K. S. Napolitino
Subject: Application for vacant seat number four on Woodway city council

[External Email Warning!: This email originated outside the Town of Woodway. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.]

Greetings,

After moving to Woodway in the winter of 2019 I quickly learned about the unique character of the city. I have slowly learned more about the city and when I heard about the unexpected vacancy on the city council I talked to a few long-time residents and decided to apply for the vacant position. If there is some way that I can contribute to maintaining the characteristics that set Woodway apart from other cities I would like to do that.

I will be sending answers to two of the questions by separate email.

I hope that things are going well with you and that you are getting a chance to enjoy the belated spring.

Regards,

Steve Mitchell

23415 Timber Lane, Woodway, WA 98020

206-783-2278

Heidi K. S. Napolitino

From: Dr Steven Mitchell MD PhD <drstevenmitchell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 7:04 PM
To: Heidi K. S. Napolitino
Subject: Response to question 2-Vacant position 4 for Woodway city council

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Although I do not have any direct knowledge of skills that apply to city government I do have thirty eight years of experience running a medical office in Seattle. This requires managing bookkeeping, taxes, negotiations for leases, keeping up with an ever evolving cascade of government regulations, as well as remaining current on the topics related to my business.

In 1990, apparently thinking that running my office was not busy enough, I opened an espresso stand in Mill Creek, then an espresso shop in Magnolia, followed by a mailbox store in Magnolia, then a video store in Carnation, when we still had video stores. I was curious about each of those businesses and wanted to learn more about how they worked. I found that each business was different and that they were all very different from a medical office. After several years I sold all the businesses.

About fifteen years ago I became curious about how start up businesses work. At that point I joined the angel investing community in Seattle and worked with many start ups and invested in several of them. This turned out to be an enlightening experience. I found that there are a great many very bright, very ambitious entrepreneurs competing for investment dollars. Recently I have scaled down angel investing, but I am still involved.

I am very interested in using what I have learned to contribute to keeping Woodway the unique spot that it is.

Regards,

Steve Mitchell

Heidi K. S. Napolitino

From: Dr Steven Mitchell MD PhD <drstevenmitchell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 7:12 PM
To: Heidi K. S. Napolitino
Subject: Response to question number 4-Vacancy on position number four

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If I found myself in the position of not supporting a position that my colleagues approved the first thing I would do would be to review the relevant information and make sure that I had an adequate understanding of the issue. After that I would try to make sure I understood the reasoning that each of my colleagues had used to arrive at their conclusions. If I had information that I thought might materially influence their decision I would present it to them as clearly as possible. If they found the information that I presented to not be compelling enough to change their position I would accept the fact that, given the same facts they had come to a different conclusion, and proceed to implement the decision.

Heidi K. S. Napolitino

From: nancy neuman <rdcjir@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:24 PM
To: Heidi K. S. Napolitino
Subject: Council position #4 vacancy

[External Email Warning!: This email originated outside the Town of Woodway. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.]

To: Heidi, Council Members and Mayor Quinn,

Hello,

I am Nancy and am interested in the open council #4 seat.

I have lived in Woodway since Jan. 2021. I grew up in Shoreline and have been familiar with the town of Woodway for many years. I grew up spending a lot of time at Richmond beach and live in the same neighborhood where a lot of my high school friends grew up. Now in my free time I enjoy reading, sewing, walking, swimming, traveling and being Nana to my two grandsons.

It's been a good experience coming to Council meetings for the last year and being able to learn how the town operates. I have appreciated observing how they can work things out to come up with the best solutions for the community. In the current state of the world it can be easy to be divided, but I believe a good way to overcome division is listening and trying to meet each person where they're coming from. Listening can often diffuse a situation. I have my own views, but don't always have to be "right".

I have never been on a town board but have been an avid volunteer worker, served on a school board, worked with the assistance league helping to clothe children and have been a part of an HOA board. I have also volunteered at COH and Providence Everett gift shops.

My husband and I have built many homes throughout the greater Seattle area and I have spent time getting permits, etc. through the city halls.

I love living in Woodway and getting to be a part of such a wonderful community. I would love to have the opportunity to serve the Town of Woodway and be grateful for your consideration for Council position #4.

Thank you,

Nancy Neuman

Sent from my iPhone

Heidi K. S. Napolitino

From: Craig Paladeau <paladeau@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 8:13 PM
To: Heidi K. S. Napolitino

[External Email Warning!: This email originated outside the Town of Woodway. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.]

Dear Heidi,

I wanted to reach out and put my hat in the ring for the vacant council position. My name is Craig Paladeau and I have lived in Woodway, WA for 10 years with my wife, 15 year-old-daughter, mother-in-law, two dogs and two tortoises. In that time, Woodway and our neighbors have given a lot to our family. Now, it is time that I give back to Woodway.

"We become neighbors when we are willing to cross the road for each other." Henri J.M. Nouwen

Our family came to Washington when my wife got a job at Amazon in 2012. Our time in Woodway started in a rental on Timber Lane. We loved the town so much, we purchased a home on Makah Rd. just nine months later. Since then, we've completed multiple remodeling and landscaping projects. We've enjoyed many deer, eagles, hawks, coyotes and bunny sightings and walked many miles through the quiet streets with our dogs, appreciating the tree cover on hot summer days. We've had many parties and gatherings over the years where we've hosted our neighbors, many of whom met each other for the first time from our backyard.

I have 20 years of real estate experience as a loan agent working for various banks in California and Washington, currently with Washington Trust Bank. I have a keen appreciation for home improvement, property value and modernization, but not at the expense of what makes Woodway an amazing town. I have a good grasp of zoning laws and a strong background in finance and budgets. If selected, I feel I could add significant value to property owners in solving problems, dealing with disputes and providing assistance in times of need.

Please consider my application. Thank you.

Sincerely
Craig Paladeau

LETTER OF INTEREST

Woodway Town Council

23920 11th Pl W

Woodway, WA, 98020

4/20/23

Dear Woodway Town Council,

My name is Marcus Tomici, and I recently received your postcard regarding the vacancy of council position #4. I am interested in filling the position via your interview and selection process.

I have been a Woodway resident for the past seven years and am currently a freshman at the University of Washington majoring in political science. I am seeking to fill the vacancy because I have a deep and profound desire to serve my community and work in government at a local level. My experience includes recently working for the Washington State GOP this past Summer and Fall in their campaign fundraising and get-out-the-vote operations. I have always found myself a natural leader, always more than willing to cooperate and compromise with those around me. I believe I would present a fresh and young lens to Woodway's council. And above all else, I am a citizen who adores his community and is very invested in contemporary issues.

I appreciate your time and consideration. I will be available for the interview on Monday, May 8th, and am open to any communication needed before that date. The best phone number to reach me is, # (206)604-9091, and the best email address is marcustomici@comcast.net. I look forward to discussing any additional questions you may have for me.

Sincerely,

Marcus Tomici

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Tomici', with a stylized, cursive script.

COUNCILMEMBER QUESTIONS

Woodway Town Council

Marcus Tomici

What experiences, talents, or skills would you bring to the Council and community that you would like to highlight?

- I believe my drive, leadership, and communication skills will suit me well as a council member. I have always had a burning passion for working in any form of government, and becoming a civil servant to my community would be an incredible honor. I take policy and legislation very seriously, as seen through my studies, past internships, and jobs with political groups. Via my passion for tennis, I have built very sharp communication skills serving as a youth sports coach and varsity captain for several years. I am an undeterred leader, as there is never a conversation or initiative I will shy away from civilly engaging in. I also believe that my young age is an asset. Actively bringing new perspectives to the table and working to vitalize other young citizens' interest in our town's operations.

What do you feel are the top two issues that the Town is facing today?

- I believe the top two issues Woodway faces are climate change's threat to our environment and the housing policies being presented in Olympia. Woodway is incredibly well known for its pristine greenery and ecosystems. With increasingly hotter and drier summers, the threat of drought and permanent ecological damage is impending. As a council member, I would make the utmost effort to consult with local experts to ensure our trees, plant life, and animal populations are healthy. I will also be considering new housing developments' possible negative environmental impacts. Our second issue for Woodway concerns the housing bills coming out of our state's capital. Duplexes, fourplexes, and apartment buildings could strain local watersheds and look sorely out of place. The ban on strictly single-family housing units flies directly in the face of what makes Woodway unique. The area's large lots and rural feel are here to stay, and I, as a council member, would make any effort to curb these unpopular changes.

Town Council
Town of Woodway

April 19, 2023

Councilmembers,

Please accept this as my Letter of Interest to fill the vacant Council seat. I have the time, the interest and if selected to fill this position, the opportunity to faithfully serve the best interests of the citizens of Woodway.

I was born and raised in the local area and graduated from the University of Washington in 1974. I entered the United States Navy in 1974 and served as a naval aviator from 1974-1982. I received an honorable discharge and started work in the Seattle office of Merrill Lynch where I worked as an account executive from 1982-1987. In 1988 I started a recycling business and sold the business in 2010 and retired. My wife is an educator in the Northshore School District and we have two adult sons who both live nearby. We have been married for 30 years.

We have lived in Woodway for seven years and previous to that we lived in Woodinville for 16 years.

Respectfully,

Jim Willett

Written response to Part B questions 1 and 3;

1. I highly value the unique qualities of Woodway. I see Woodway as much more than a neighborhood or place to live, I see Woodway as a way of life. I think of Woodway as a quiet green oasis amid the bustle of surrounding communities that are becoming increasingly dense and commercialized. Preserving and protecting Woodway's uniqueness amid neighboring commercial and residential development in the years ahead is going to take prudence, wisdom, fiscal responsibility and farsighted leadership. I want to contribute to that effort. I have worked for large organizations and successfully started and run a small business, I've served in the military as part of a team effort toward achieving common goals, I've learned to take orders and give orders. I think some of the things I've learned over the years could contribute to making wise decisions that would protect Woodway's unique qualities for future generations.

3. From my perspective which is admittedly uninformed I think the top two issues confronting Woodway today are; **A)** How to remain fiscally solvent when tax revenue is legally restrained and the town's major (and necessary) financial expenditures are mostly out of our control. For example, construction and road maintenance and fire and police protection. Clearly, revenue is going to have a hard time keeping up with expenses and balancing the two is going to be challenging in the years ahead. **B)** Point Wells could be a financial and commercial opportunity for the town or it might become a legal and financial sinkhole which could threaten Woodway's independence and possibly its existence. Or possibly neither. I do not know enough to determine which it is but in my business career I have seen both up close. I think it is going to require exceptional skill and healthy skepticism to safely navigate any negotiations over Point Wells.

Thank you,
Jim Willett