

New Councilor December 8, 2021

At last night's City Council meeting we appointed a new councilor to fill out the remaining year of the term vacated when Councilor Kathy Maher moved to southern Oregon.

The "new" councilor is actually an "old" councilor, Carey Rhoads, who has served several previous terms on the city council. Councilor Rhoads raised his family in Carlton, and over the years he's been involved in numerous activities and programs, including Carlton Together Cares, A Walk in the Park and student sports activities. He brings a wealth of institutional memory to the council – something that will be a valuable resource for us all in the coming year.

This wasn't an easy decision – we had three very qualified candidates (a fourth applicant was not able to complete the process) – all of whom I consider friends, and all of whom I believe the city would have been fortunate to have on the council.

Applying for or running for public office isn't an easy decision; you know that when you put your name out there, you no longer are a private individual. Even in a small community like ours, you quickly learn that people you thought didn't even know you existed...DO know you exist!

So to all three of our neighbors who stepped up this month, and took the risk of becoming a public figure: KUDOS! It's a stretch, and it takes some courage, but you did it, and I hope that you'll be an inspiration for others who may have thought they'd like to get more involved in government – you don't always know what will happen if you do try, but you definitely know what will happen if you don't try.

Welcome Carey.

We're all looking forward to the next year.