

Montana Conservation Voters Kalispell and Whitefish Voter Guide

www.mtvoters.org

September, 2009

Who we elect Matters! This is especially true at the local level where the candidates we elect put our local tax dollars to work, and are the first line of defense for protecting our healthy communities, clean air, water, and beautiful outdoor heritage.

Montana Conservation Voters endorsed in two Flathead communities: Kalispell and Whitefish. The endorsement process included the use of a questionnaire reflecting local conservation priorities, candidate interviews with chapter members, and endorsement decisions made by the chapter board, which were then advanced to the MCV Political Action Committee and Board of Directors.

The Kalispell City Council has nine members including the Mayor. Four of the nine are up for re-election. Montana Conservation Voters supports the election of Pamela Kennedy for Mayor. Opponent Tammy Fischer did not seek endorsement while Ward 1 incumbent Rober Hafferman did, but was not endorsed.

The Whitefish City Council has seven members including the Mayor. Three council members are up for re-election, but the only one is seeking re-election is Frank Sweeney, who Montana Conservation Voters has endorsed. Candidates Bill Kahle and Chris Hyatt also sought MCV's endorsement but were not endorsed. Candidate Phillip Mitchell did not seek endorsement.

These city government elections are crucial, as the people we elect make decisions about recycling, parks, trails and responsible development directly affecting our quality of life. That's why your vote is so important in this upcoming election!

Copies of the candidates' questionnaires are available to MCV members upon request by calling 254-1593, or e-mailing kevin@mtvoters.org.

2009 Municipal Election Calendar

October 5th: Close of regular registration. Late registration begins. Voters may still register at the local election office up to and including Election Day, fill out and submit a voter registration card, and vote a ballot.

October 14th: Absentee election ballots are sent out.

November 3rd: Municipal General Election. Voters have until 8:00 p.m. on November 3rd to return mailed ballots to the county election office or to ballot drop-off boxes in Whitefish City Hall.

Here's what you can do as a Conservation Voter to elect these candidates.

- Help the candidates with phone calls, meeting with voters at their doors, or with mailings and fundraisers.
- Write a letter to the editor in support of these candidates.
- Register to vote, and vote in the November 3rd general election.
- Donate to Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee to elect pro-conservation candidates: www.mtvoters.org/pac

Kalispell: Vote at the polls on November 3rd, or by mail. Absentee ballots will be sent October 14th to anyone who has requested one by that time or who is on the permanent absentee ballot list. Absentee ballots may be requested through November 2nd. They must be returned by 8 p.m. on November 3rd.

Pam Kennedy, Kalispell Mayor, is seeking re-election to the city's top office, where she has served for 8 years.



Pam brings a good deal of city experience, having also served on the City Council for 8 years. Pam has lived in Kalispell for the past 30 years and is the managing partner of Great Bear Builders, a residential home builder. Pam is a long time supporter of youth and family issues within her community, and has served on a multitude of boards and commissions at the local, state, and federal level. She is committed to preserving water quality in and around Kalispell, and working with the Department of Environmental Quality to reach a common sense approach to maintenance. She also believes that reviewing and updating the growth policy is a proactive approach to preserving open space, water and air quality and transportation needs. **To support Pam, mail checks to 120 Sunset Court Kalispell, MT 59901, phone (406) 253-8941, or e-mail pjbk@ceturtytel.net.**

Whitefish: All-mail ballots will be sent to active voters (those not on the "inactive list") on October 14th. If you do not receive a ballot and you live within city limits, contact the Flathead County Elections Office at (406) 447-8338. Your ballot must be returned to the Flathead County Election Office by November 3rd at 8 p.m. or you may drop it off at the Whitefish City Offices.



Frank Sweeney is running for the Whitefish City Council, where he has served for over a year, having been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Shirley Jacobsen. Frank is an attorney with 29 years of experience in business, construction, consumer, divorce, family and real estate law. He received his JD from the University of Houston, Texas. Frank brings a wealth of civic experience, with service as a Board member of the Glacier Institute, a Board member of the Foy's To Blacktail Trails, including serving as chairperson for a year, the Trails committee for a Trail Runs Through It. He was also a Big Mountain Ambassador for 4 years, guiding tours of the mountain. Frank has also been a strong voice for water quality, standing up for the Lakeshore Regulations, the Critical Areas Ordinance and evaluating problems with existing septic systems and the city-owned facilities. Frank supports the Growth Policy as a viable tool for encouraging infill development and preserving open space. **To support Frank send checks to 350 Lost Coon Trail, Whitefish, MT 59937, phone (406) 862-6451, frank.sweeney@airmail.net.**



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www.mtvoters.org

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Inside: Endorsements for the 2009 Kalispell and Whitefish City Elections

Election Calendar

October 5th:
Close of regular registration. Late registration begins.

October 14th:
Absentee ballots are sent out.

November 3rd:
General election Day.

Your Vote Matters in the Upcoming City Elections!

The City Council candidates we elect this fall are the first line of defense for protecting the health of our community, for clean air, clear water, and for shaping the future of communities like Kalispell and Whitefish.



Montana Conservation Voters' Voter Guide informs you about who is running, and which candidates we have endorsed. If you live in Whitefish, you will be mailed a ballot which needs to be returned by November 3rd. If you live in Kalispell you may vote at the polls on November 3rd or request an absentee ballot. Ballots are mailed out to Whitefish and Kalispell absentee voters on October 14th.



Send in your ballot by November 3rd and make your voice heard and your vote count!

Paid for by the
Montana Conservation Voters Political Action Committee
PO Box 63, Billings, MT 59103 • David Tyler, Treasurer

Kalispell and Whitefish Candidates

Here is a list of current Kalispell and Whitefish office-holders, and candidates who are on the 2009 General Election ballot. Visit www.mtvoters.org or call (406) 254-1593 for up-to-date information through election day.

	Position	Incumbent	Up for re-election	Candidates who have filed
Kalispell	Mayor	Pamela B. Kennedy	Yes	Pamela Kennedy, Tammy Fisher
	Council W1	Robert Hafferman	Yes	Robert Hafferman
	Council W1	<u>Randy Kenyon</u>	No	
	Council W2	Hank Olson	Yes	Hank Olson, Jeffrey Zauner
	Council W2	Wayne Saverud	No	
	Council W3	Jim Atkinson	Yes	Jim Atkinson, Marc Rold
	Council W3	Kari Gabriel	No	
	Council W4	Tim Kluesner	Yes	Tim Kluesner
Council W4	<u>M. Duane Larson</u>	No		
Whitefish	Mayor	Mike Jenson	No	
	Council	<u>Nancy Woodruff</u>	Yes, but not running	
	Council	Frank Sweeney	Yes	
	Council	<u>John Muhlfield</u>	No	<u>Frank Sweeney</u> , Chris Hyatt,
	Council	<u>Nick Palmer</u>	Yes, but not running	Bill Kahle, Phillip B. Mitchell
	Council	Turner Askew	No	
Council	Ryan Friel	No		

Previously endorsed Incumbents and currently endorsed Candidates are underlined.