

## **Recall petition:**

Many of you are probably wondering why you are receiving ballots in the mail. A local resident has filed a prospective recall petition to propose the recall of three City of Aumsville council members. Oregon state law allows for this process. A person that is a registered voter in the district where the elected official was appointed or elected can file a prospective petition to recall an elected official. The petitioner has issued a statement in which he lists his reasons for filing the prospective recall petition for these councilmen and women and it can be found in your voting materials. The councilmember's have issued a statement of justification to explain why they took their action. The filing officer determines if the forms submitted by the chief petitioner of the recall effort include the elements required by election law. This does not include analysis to determine if the reasons listed in the statement section are true and accurate. City staff has assembled this informational piece to provide some answers to frequently asked questions.

If you're a registered voter you will receive, or may already have received, a voter's ballot. Hopefully, this letter will help answer some of your questions. The vote before you this month is; do Aumsville voters want to recall the three councilmembers who were voted into office on January 2017, Councilor Trina Lee, Kevin Crawford and Lorie Walters.

## **FAQ:**

**Question:** If these Aumsville City Councilors are recalled from office, would the police service fee still be in effect?"

**Answer:** Yes, The police service fee is not affected by the recall.

**Question:** What happens to the vacant council seats if the city councilors are recalled?

**Answer:** The remaining councilmembers would appoint those positions that would be vacant; those appointees would serve the remainder of the council terms.

**Question:** Who can file a petition for recall and what are the criteria?

**Answer:** . A person that is a registered voter in the district where the elected official was appointed or elected can file with the appropriate filing officer, if they file the appropriate forms as directed and gather the required signatures.

**Question:** Did the city council hold public meetings and discuss the police service fee with residents.

**Answer:** The city council held two public meetings on this specific subject 30 days apart; they also discussed the matter at a number of public meetings throughout the year. The council directed staff to draft public articles and letters about the proposed fee over the course of several months. Those articles were published in the city newsletter and delivered to every home.

**Question:** Why didn't the council refer the fee to the ballot for the voter's consideration?

**Answer:** The council reviewed information to determine possible methods for funding 24 hour police coverage. They decided to implement a police fee that was put into place immediately. They considered the option of referring the proposed fee to the ballot for the voter's consideration. Staff would refer you to ask them directly.

**Question:** What input did the council seek and receive before making this decision?

**Answer:** The city council members reviewed the feedback from local businesses and residents. They held two public meetings regarding the proposed fee. They provided information about the proposed fee over the course of three months. City Council determined, based on the feedback provided, to implement the fee.

Public employees must not support or oppose a recall petition or election while on the job during working hours, or otherwise in their official capacity. They may provide information about the special election process. However, we are required not to provide any language that may be considered persuasive in nature.

*"This information was reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for compliance with ORS 260.432."*