

Bend City Councilor John Hummel resigns

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

In a surprising announcement today, John Hummel resigned his position as Bend City Councilor, effective March 1. In a letter addressed to Mayor Bruce Abernethy, Hummel said he planned to go back to school so he could better accomplish his desire to help create economic stability and prosperity in the Third World in an effort to work toward world peace.

Bend City Councilor John Hummel announced his resignation today “ Photo provided by City of Bend
“Sometimes, even though a decision is hard, the right answer is clear. This is one of those times. I have a passion inside to work for international peace, justice, prosperity and the rule of the law. At this stage in my life I must respond,” Hummel wrote.

Hummel’s plans include completing a two-month French language immersion program at Middlebury College in Vermont, then going on to get his Masters degree in international development studies. That course of study “ not available in Bend or elsewhere in the state of Oregon -- will allow him to work toward his goal by helping businesses invest in the Third World. Hummel said he has applied to schools around the world.

Calling Bend “one of the most livable and greatest cities in the world”, in reflection Hummel said, “Mission accomplished,” as he listed some of the city’s accomplishments during his tenure on the council. “The council’s work to pass the equal rights ordinance, address the affordable housing problem and create a public transit system stand out,” he said, but added “The most important accomplishments of this council and city during our tenure have been the successful day-to-day operations of the city.”

First elected to city council in 2000, 37-year old Hummel's term expires in 2008.

According to Andrea McCullough, the city's communications manager, the city charter allows the remaining council members to fill the vacancy by appointment within 30 days. If not filled in 30 days, McCullough said, then the vacancy shall be filled at the next available election as provided by state law, provided that election is before the expiration of the term of the resigned council member.

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