

**Application for Appointment to Port Townsend City Council**

**Applicant Information**

Applicant Name Obee Frederick R  
Last First MI

Residence Address 1001 U St. Port Townsend, WA 98368

Contact Phone 360-301-6453 Email fredobee@gmail.com

Are you 18 or older? Yes

Do you reside in the Port Townsend City limits and have you done so for at least 1 year?    
yes no

Are you a registered voter in Jefferson County?    
yes no

The information is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and Laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

Frederick Obee  
Signature

6-9-24  
Date

**Please submit answers to the supplemental questions below, not to exceed 5 pages:**

1. Why are you interested in serving as an appointed City Councilmember?
2. What is your understanding of and perspective on the City's most pressing challenges and opportunities?
3. What experience and skills would you bring to the role of a City Councilmember? How might you focus those skills and experience during your term?
4. Describe your leadership style. How do you most effectively work with others?
5. Describe your philosophy with public engagement. What matters most and what would you bring/add to the current way the City engages the community? How might you ensure that diverse perspectives are heard and measured in decision-making?
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As a lifelong journalist, I have always had an interest in government affairs, and I recently retired and now have the time to devote to city council business. I also just want to be of service the community I call home. I've been a Port Townsend resident for 21 years.

The city faces many social and financial challenges and while I can always learn more, I believe I have a good understanding of the issues we face. Affordable housing and homelessness are two of the big social challenges. Making a dent in those problems will require wide collaboration with many other groups and government entities. The city also needs to confront the problem of deferred maintenance in sewers, water systems and streets. Resolving the issue of the community swimming pool is at the top of the list for action especially following its recent system failure and closure. A feasibility study and the conclusions of a committee studying options should provide valuable guidance on how to proceed on that issue. All of these infrastructure issues are the result of many years of inaction, and it will be incumbent on the council and the city staff to craft long-term solutions. This undoubtedly will require some hard choices.

I think my skills and background make me a good candidate for the council position. I've been a journalist covering local governments since 1982, so I have a good understanding of government procedures and policies. My first job in Port Townsend was covering Jefferson County government for The Leader. That included city/county engagement at the height of the Growth Management Act debate. I did that for six years. After leaving the Leader to be the editor of a small daily newspaper in California, I returned three years later to be the Leader's General Manager, a job I held for 12 years. Since then, I've been the manager of a non-profit newspaper trade group. I served on the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board for more than a decade and served as president in 2012. For about a dozen years, I moderated League of Women Voters candidate forums where the public could ask questions of candidates for public office. During my tenure as the general manager of the Leader, I worked with dozens of community groups who were seeking ways to promote important community events. All of this experience gives me a knowledge of the community that will assist me in evaluating the issues that come before the council.

My leadership style begins with being a good listener and fact finder. If the process used in decision making is a good one, groups can work together to achieve a shared vision.

Public engagement is perhaps the hardest work any leadership group does, because people often do not respond to information until issues directly affect their lives. There is no magic solution to this. It requires reaching out in every available way on every existing communication channel. Public engagement must be at once wide-ranging and personal. The ultimate goal is to win the trust of people by reaching out in a way that respects a wide range of opinions and circumstances. That's the way you invite and encourage diverse perspectives.

The city council develops policy, and the manager is the chief administrator for the city. Under this form of government, the council does not get involved in the day-to-day management of the city or the city staff. The council does have the responsibility for hiring and reviewing the performance of the manager. Clear communications, transparency and honest fact finding are essential for a good working relationship with the manager, the council and the community.

I will be a success in this position if people in community perceive me as a fair and prudent decision maker willing to hear diverse opinions and able to help fashion acceptable solutions.

My biggest challenge will be to quickly get up to speed on the granular details of the council's business and process. While I feel well informed about many things, I'm sure there are many areas where I have not scratched the surface. Fortunately, I have a lifetime of practice in quickly absorbing and understanding complex issues, and I will devote as much time as is necessary to become knowledgeable.

I should mention that I will be out of the country on a long-planned vacation set for Aug. 10 to 28, so if selected, I would be unavailable for the Aug. 12 meeting on your schedule.

My resume is attached. Please let me know if you need something else to complete my application.

Resumé  
Fred Obee  
PO Box 690  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
fredobee@gmail.com • 360-301-6453

### Community involvement

Served on the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board for 10 years and was president in 2012. Member of the East Jefferson County Rotary Club for 12 years and served on its board. Board member of the Washington Coalition for Open Government for 10 years. Moderated candidate forums for the League of Women Voters over a decade.

### Work Experience

2016 to April 2024 – Executive Director of the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association, responsible for managing every aspect of a small non-profit organization, from serving members, to fundraising, communications, and planning and managing an annual conference.

2015 – Marketing Director for Centrum, a non-profit arts organization. Managed creation of publications and the scheduling and placement of advertising.

2003 to 2015 – General Manager, Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader. Responsible for creating and managing company budget, reviewing expenses, managing projects, hiring and evaluating employees, maintaining company computer and phone networks, serving as the human resources director, negotiating and managing contracts, reviewing and updating insurance policies and managing benefits packages. Helped direct staff in news, advertising, classifieds, circulation and production. Was also called on to write stories and editorials.

2000 to 2003 – Editor, the Daily Triplicate, Crescent City, Calif. Responsible for the news content of five-day-a-week newspaper. Created and managed newsroom budget and directed staff.

1994 to 2000 – Reporter, editor for Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader. Covered Jefferson County Government, wrote feature stories, edited publications.

1982 to 1994 – Reporter, news editor and finally editor of the Whidbey News-Times in Oak Harbor, Wash. Managed newsroom budget and staff.

### Career highlights

- Reorganized the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association so records were complete and accessible, finances were stable, and programs were expanded to include coverage of the Washington State Legislature for member newspapers.
- As a reporter at the Leader, my 1998 reporting on the conviction and imprisonment of a teenage Chimacum boy involved in a schoolyard brawl showed the boy was a victim of bullying and poorly represented by his attorney. The story prompted Washington Gov. Gary Locke to order the boy's release from prison. The story placed 24th in the nation for the Pulitzer Prize in investigative reporting.
- Led reporting team following the placement of the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station on the federal base closure list. Coverage showed the Navy failed to apply its own criteria in listing the base for closure and the recommendation for closure was overturned by the Base Closure Commission.

### Education

Bachelor's degree in journalism from Western Washington University.



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### Eligibility

To be eligible for appointment, applicants must:

- Reside full time in Port Townsend city limits and have been a resident for at least one year
- Be a registered voter in Jefferson County, WA
- Be a citizen of the United States and the State of Washington
- Be 18 years of age or older

### Application Timeline

The timeline for filling the City Council vacancy is as follows:

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### Application Materials

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- This application (starting on page 3)
- Answers to supplemental questions no longer than 5 pages
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### Application Submittal

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Alyssa Rodrigues, City Clerk  
Councilmember Appointment  
250 Madison Street, Suite 200  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Materials must be received by the deadline so please ensure extra time if you choose to use mail.

## **About the Port Townsend City Council**

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City Councilmembers serve staggered four-year terms; roughly half the Council is up for election every two years. All Councilmembers are "at-large", meaning that they are elected by and serve the City as a whole as opposed to a specific district in the City.

The City Council chooses a Mayor and Deputy Mayor from among its members at the first meeting of the new year following an election. The Mayor presides at Council meetings and represents the City at ceremonial functions and inter-governmental meetings. The Deputy Mayor presides in the Mayor's absence. They and the City Manager set the agenda for City Council meetings.

Most City Council meetings are held on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Occasionally special meetings are scheduled as needed. There are no Council meetings on Mondays that are legal holidays. City Council meetings, procedures, duties, committees, relations with City administration, and more are codified in Articles 1-7 in the City Council Rules of Procedure, here:

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Councilmembers may also serve on or liaise with Council committees, regional and local committees, and agency boards. Councilmembers also attend occasional workshops and conferences, particularly those most related to crucial topics like the Open Public Meetings Act.

Serving on the Port Townsend City Council is a part-time position. The position includes a nominal monthly salary, compared regionally and determined locally by a Salary Commission, which is as follows:

- January 2024: Member \$725, Mayor \$1075
- January 2026: Member \$775, Mayor \$1125
- January 2028: Member \$800, Mayor \$1175

As determined in late 2022, a Council majority is able to form a workgroup for health coverage and apply for medical benefits through the Association of Washington Cities. However, while that benefit remains possible, a current majority of Council has not requested coverage so therefore there is none. Such a determination can be made at the first of the year for the subsequent year.

**Application for Appointment to Port Townsend City Council**

**Applicant Information**

Applicant Name Haney, Heidi I.  
Last First MI

Residence Address 5509 Wilson St.

Contact Phone 346-444-0975 Email hhaney1207@gmail.com

Are you 18 or older? yes

Do you reside in the Port Townsend City limits and have you done so for at least 1 year?    
yes no

Are you a registered voter in Jefferson County?    
yes no

The information is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and Laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

Heidi I. Haney  
Signature

6/18/2024  
Date

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1) I am interested in serving as an appointed City Council Member because Port Townsend is fast growing and needs strong leadership. I have been involved in the community in many aspects and I love this community and its members. We are a tight knit group of people and I believe we all want what is best for the growth of this community and we all want each business and resident to thrive. Strong leadership that is able to see all sides of a situation and can be a good fiduciary steward for our City is the best candidate. I believe I can fill that role.

2) My understanding of and perspective of the City's most pressing challenges and opportunities is that we need to help blend the line of understanding and education amongst the residents of this community. We need to help them understand why a project is helpful long term for the community, how it is being paid for, and how residents benefit from said project. My involvement in the community has led me to realize that many residents of this community receive misinformation or none at all. Sometimes because they choose not to seek the information and sometimes because they do not know how to go about finding the information. Instead of relying on community members to read long forms on the website, to have a liaison between the City of PT and its community members it is imperative. I believe it is very easy to get community member's buy-in when they understand the project's objective (long term and short term) and how it benefits them. Most members just want to know; "What's in it for me" and "who's paying for this and why."

3) The experience and skills I would bring to the role, as a City Councilmember, is my many years in management. Both middle management and Executive Management along with my business ownership experience. I also have served on three Board of Directors for various organization in the city. From these experiences, I have gained team-building skills, fiduciary responsibility skills, negotiation skills and many years of leadership experience. How I would focus these skills into my role would be to focus on helping folks find their common ground especially when there are so many sides to each equation. We cannot make everyone happy, but to have folks come together and realize we have more goals the same than different is a skill I believe I possess. I also do not hesitate to bring up tough questions and play "devil's advocate" if you will. I would be an ACTIVE Council Member and not one to just "fill a chair." I would put in the hard work to ensure our community is well cared for - for the present moment AND into the future. I would also actively research policy and law when necessary and to be assertive in reading through contracts that would seek approval.

4) My leadership style is one of LISTENING. In my many years of hospitality experience, I have learned to excel at customer service. I am very good at de-escalating situations. In my own business today, I deal with many personalities and it does take a certain type of talent to be able to handle each personality type with grace and wisdom. I have a knack for moving my personality to theirs in order to empathize, listen, and come up with resolutions and to create a bond or common goal. I used to teach relationship sales when I was Chapter Leader of Houston Emerging Entrepreneurs. In the class I taught folks how, with just a few questions, you could find out what is important to another individual. Once you know what is important to them, then you can help make what you are trying to convey fit into THEIR world, thus furthering the conversation and more than likely obtaining their buy-in. It is a skill!

5) My philosophy with public engagement is one of transparency. I believe we must be transparent with our community and respectful of their opinions and take advice from our community when it makes sense. Education is another area for public engagement that usually is overlooked. Sometimes our community is not as every council meeting, nor do they read the minutes or follow on Zoom, so there must be another way of public engagement. Whether its coffee chats or a column in the newspaper, or a Facebook group, engaging with the public in a transparent way with an educational approach is key, I believe. This is also the way diversity is heard and measured in decision-making processes.

6) My understanding of our form of government (Council-Manager) and the City Councilmember's responsibilities are to establish city laws and policies approve appropriations and contracts for services along with adopting annual budgets. The Councilmembers also hire and evaluate the City Manager who has a larger job of preparing said budget, recruiting, hiring and supervising City staff and many other duties. What is most important to me is making sure that the City Council, staff, and our community work together. Our goals are achieved more effectively if we are ALL pulling the same rope in the same direction.

7) Success in this role for me looks like a voice that can be a reasonable sounding board for when the Council and the community may get into a bit of a "log jam" and that I can bring the diversity of the community' s concerns to the table in a way that is helpful for the decision-making processes. I also see my role as a City Councilmember successful if I can help educate the community in a way that make them our partners and cheerleaders, not our adversaries.

8) I believe my biggest challenge if appointed as City Councilmember will be just learning very quickly the By-Laws and procedural process of the Council. I am a quick study, so I am sure I will be fine. I will dedicated some time to reading up on the procedures and processes and the formality of the ebb and flow of the meetings and our responsibilities.

9) I would really like to be considered for this position. I have wanted to be more involved with the community with every passing year. My desire only grows deeper with every passing year and every new community member I meet. I love being involved in the community and have taken Board of Directors positions to help groom myself for this role as a City Councilmember. With Aislinn's departure, I feel strongly that this is "my time!" I want to be a part of the solution, the change, and to help see Port Townsend into a thriving future without losing our "small town charm." I firmly believe with my community involvement and influence that I can be a participating Councilmember that actively leads by example the change I like to see in the world– and more specifically– our town!





**Heidi Haney**

5509 Wilson St.  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
(346) 444-0975 ♦ [hhaney1207@gmail.com](mailto:hhaney1207@gmail.com)

## **Experienced in Leadership**

Top-notch Manager/Director with 20+ years of experience managing, recruiting, and training sales force along with managing/directing business relations and cost control under company budgeted guidelines. Excellent organizational and follow through skills with a high attention to detail. Experienced in managing/directing business relations/operations and special projects under National Directors, Senior Vice President, and CEO. Maintains excellent written and oral communication skills, problem resolution abilities, and a high level of confidentiality. Professional, mature, high-spirited, and energetic forward thinking leader with ability to multi-task in high stress environments. Proficient in fostering company cultures.

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## **Professional Experience**

- TIPSY GYPSY S.P.C.** – Port Townsend, WA 2018 – Present  
**OWNER**  
Mobile bartending services for WA State, specializing in weddings, events, and guided wine education tastings and excursions. Party rentals. Approximately 75 events per year.
- PORT TOWNSEND VINEYARDS** – Port Townsend, WA 2017 – Present  
**SOMMELIER**  
Manages tasting room and all aspects of wine education and training.
- EAGLEMOUNT CIDER & WINERY** – Port Townsend, WA 2016 – 2019  
**TASTING ROOM ASSOCIATE**  
Managed Tasting Room.
- SEAPORT LANDING by BONAVENTURE SENIORLIVING** – Port Townsend, WA 2016 – 2017  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Licensed Assisted Living Administrator for 120-unit complex with 55 AL units. Responsible for overall operations and sales of the community and reporting directly to COO.
- HOLIDAY RETIREMENT** – Vancouver, WA & Houston, TX 2011 – 2016  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Responsible for leading and directing the overall operation of the community in accordance with resident needs, government regulations, and our internal policies and procedures. Other tasks include maintaining excellent service quality, high occupancy, and meeting corporate financial goals within established budgetary guidelines. Regional Mentor for West District – training all new management teams and community sales leaders. Took two “lower 48” buildings to 95%+ occupancy and maintained high level of performance during tenure.

*Resume of:*

*Heidi Haney - Page 2*

**CREDIT MONEY & LIFE** – Dallas, TX

07/26/10 – 12/01/2011

***PROJECT MANAGER/DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT***

Manage clients and their unsecured debts. Responsible for educating and enrolling consumers in our debt management program that utilizes forensic mitigation. Process all applications that go to the underwriter and attorney, handle clients in 42 states, keeping accurate records, and responsible for all follow through with the client. Writing and editing for our website content; also perform all live chat driven through the website. Write and manage social networking and blogging. Authored published blog articles. Project Manager over the research and developmental team for a new financial and life plan/coaching program to be launched in late spring of 2011. Fully responsible for the prototype production and release. Key member of marketing team.

**LOGAN'S ROADHOUSE, INC.** – Abilene, Burleson, Lewisville, and Lake Worth, TX

8/20/06 – 11/07/2009

***GNEREAL MANAGER***

Managed a casual dining restaurant of 100+ employees. Motivated staff to perform on a high level within a positive environment. Maintained an eye for detail in every dish, every day. Created an atmosphere where guest satisfaction and happiness was a priority. Managed budgeted labor and food cost. Drew action plans from understanding P&L documents. Trained cohesive teams of highly skilled managers. Trained and operated two new locations during tenure.

**DARDEN RESTAURANTS INC. (Darden Restaurants, Inc. Olive Garden)** - TX, OK, KS

4/20/00 – 6/19/06

***GENERAL MANAGER***

Managed a casual dining restaurant with 125 employees. Titles held were Culinary Manager, Service Manager, Sales Manager, and Beverage Network Leader for my region prior to becoming GM. My six-year tenure included training and opening five new restaurant locations in addition to working at four separate locations; being transferred each time for superior job performance.

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## Education

**Argosy University, Dallas, TX**

BA Psychology pursued (3 credits shy!)

GPA 3.89

**Bradford School, Portland, OR**

Certified Medical Assistant Certificate

GPA 4.0

**Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA**

Diploma

GPA 3.0

## References

Available upon request



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**Application for Appointment to Port Townsend City Council**

**Applicant Information**

Applicant Name Howard Theodore V  
Last First MI

Residence Address 1505 14th St.

Contact Phone (360) 672-5988 Email iamtedhoward@gmail.com

Are you 18 or older? Yes.

Do you reside in the Port Townsend City limits and have you done so for at least 1 year?  yes  no

Are you a registered voter in Jefferson County?  yes  no

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Signature

07/03/24  
Date

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1. Why are you interested in serving as an appointed City Councilmember?

Since moving to Port Townsend in 2021, I've found myself engaged in this unique community in deeper and more varied ways than anywhere I've lived before. It would be my honor to attempt to fill out the remainder of Aislinn Palmer's term to the same standard of public service she upheld on the Council.

2. What is your understanding of and perspective on the City's most pressing challenges and opportunities?

Over the medium term, I believe the City's most pressing challenge is the same as most municipalities – responding and adapting to anthropogenic climate change and its associated environmental changes. In some ways this central challenge is also an opportunity – the Olympic Peninsula is relatively well positioned in terms of predicted climatic changes in this century, and will likely become an increasingly attractive place to live as other locations within and outside the United States become more and more severely impacted by extreme weather and long-term changes in rainfall and other atmospheric patterns. However, this relative advantage in the mildness of climate impacts also threatens to exacerbate one of the City's other most pressing challenges—ensuring an adequate supply of affordable housing—as Port Townsend and the surrounding area becomes a locus for migration. Yet this challenge in turn provides an opportunity to meet another leading challenge, that of building and maintaining adequate infrastructure in a rural setting, where low population densities create a limited tax base for the funding of public goods and services. If these challenges and opportunities are addressed comprehensively, Port Townsend and the greater Quimper Peninsula have the potential to be a model for the Anthropocene, becoming more diverse and dynamic while avoiding unsustainable and inequitable patterns of development.

3. What experience and skills would you bring to the role of a City Councilmember? How might you focus those skills and experience during your term?

I would bring a range of nonprofit and public service experience to the Council, having worked with entities ranging from the Olympic Housing Trust and the Center for Environmental Law and Policy, to the National Lawyers Guild and the Oglala Lakota Tribe. This has involved engaging with law and policy in a variety of fields, through public consultation, lobbying, and litigation. It did not however prepare me to know how the verb 'focus' is supposed to function with the nouns 'skills' and 'experience' in this question.

4. Describe your leadership style. How do you most effectively work with others?

I like to think that I generally take a conciliatory approach to working in groups. I find it important to clearly and specifically identify points of agreement and disagreement within the group. By focusing on areas of existing agreement, groups can avoid unnecessary conflict caused by differences in phrasing or emphasis, more semantic than substantive. Making the effort to clearly articulate both existing consensus and points of disagreement provides an opportunity to see points of disagreement more clearly and work to overcome them when necessary, and generally increases the functioning of the group by refocusing it on the task or topic immediately at hand, which helps it to avoid getting lost on tangents or relitigating other issues.

I also make a lot of jokes. These are always tasteful.

5. Describe your philosophy with public engagement. What matters most and what would you bring/add to the current way the City engages the community? How might you ensure that diverse perspectives are heard and measured in decision-making?

As a foundational philosophical principle, I think the legitimacy of the exercise of administrative power flows solely from the democratic right to self-government. However, as a practical matter, representative government, in whatever form, can only ever approximate the ideal of complete popular autonomy. Representatives cannot avoid making judgements as to the best methods of achieving the greatest public good, and even the very nature of that good – neither of these things will be discernible directly from a clearly legible public will; among other

reasons because these questions will always to some extent continue to be contested.

Nonetheless, direct public engagement remains vital, not only to maintaining the public's sense of the legitimacy of government, but also as part of the process of designing and executing policy. Two things must be kept in mind in this process: first, that groups most likely to engage with government may not always represent the public at large, or propose solutions aimed toward the greatest public good – they may represent narrower interests and demand policies which will be to their benefit and not others. Second, that there may be specifically situated minorities which have legitimate interests which differ from the larger community, and which should be acknowledged and protected in policymaking. Ultimately, both of these issues are best addressed by attempting to make public engagement as broadly inclusive as possible, so that public officials view of public opinion and the public good is not distorted by the relatively active engagement of small factional interests, while the unique needs and interests of other groups do not go ignored or unconsidered.

6. What is your understanding of our form of government (Council-Manager) and a City Councilmember's responsibilities? What's important to you in making sure the City Council, staff, and our community work most effectively together?

My understanding of the Council-Manager form of government is that it confers most of the administrative functions of municipal government to a civil service lead and directed by a professional city manager, rather than a single elected official such a mayor. The city council, and each individual council member, take the role of shaping the high-level structure and direction of city government, through the selection and supervision of the city manager, passing legislation, and committee work; and facilitating citizen engagement with the processes of governance through public meetings.

7. Describe what success looks like for you in this role and what it looks like for our Council and community.

For me, success would look like the Council functioning as well between now and November 2025 as it would have if Aislinn Palmer had been able to complete her council term.



8. What do you think your biggest challenge will be as an appointed City Councilmember? How do you intend to work through that challenge?

I anticipate my greatest challenge will simply be to balance the time commitments of City Council with my other work and volunteering. I intend to recommit to disciplined calendaring.

# THEO HOWARD

360-672-5988 || iamtedhoward@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

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**Washington University in St. Louis School of Law** 2018

J.D. w/ Public Interest Certificate, 3.54 GPA

*Honors and Activities:*

- › Recipient, Scholar in Law (full tuition merit scholarship)
- › Sustainability Chair, Energy & Environmental Law Society
- › Clinical work in Interdisciplinary Environmental Law Clinic and Urban Revitalization Clinic
- › Semester in L.L.M programs at Universidade Católica Lisboa, Portugal

**University of Oslo, Norway** 2013

M.Phil., Culture, Environment, and Sustainability, 3.09 GPA

**University of California, Santa Barbara** 2008

B.A., Global & International Studies, 3.41 GPA

## EXPERIENCE

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**Clallam-Jefferson County Pro Bono Lawyers, Housing Justice Project**

Port Angeles, WA – Staff Attorney 2021-

- › Provide advice and representation to eligible low-income tenants.
- › Draft and file answers to unlawful detainer complaints and represent tenants in hearings.
- › Communicate and negotiate with landlords and their attorneys.

**Olympic Housing Trust, Port Townsend, WA – Trustee** 2022-

- › Elected Board President as of 2024
- › As Acting Secretary, kept minutes of Board meetings and draft resolutions.
- › Helped lead job search for organization's first staff members
- › Transferred organization's work to new digital platform.

**Center for Environmental Law and Policy, Seattle, WA – Legal Fellow** 2019–2020

- › Contributed to research and drafting of briefs in ongoing litigation.
- › Published interdisciplinary research in a professional journal of water law.
- › Participated in state watershed planning process as environmental representative.
- › Conducted extensive review of public records.

**National Lawyers Guild, Seattle, WA – Legal Observer** 2020–2021

- › Observe and record law enforcement interactions on behalf of clients at assemblies and demonstrations for potential future use in civil or criminal litigation.
- › As a lead, coordinate other observers on the ground and instruct them on NLG protocols.

**Great Rivers Environmental Law Center, St. Louis, MO – Legal Intern** 2017

- › Conducted policy research on renewable energy financing for low-income residents.

- › Prepared brief on bird-friendly ordinances and building design.
- › Drafted comments to Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

**Oglala Sioux Tribe, Legal Department**, Pine Ridge, SD – Legal Intern

2016

- › Drafted memoranda on issues of tribal sovereignty & civil jurisdiction.
- › Prepared position paper on regulation of *in situ* leech uranium mining.
- › Categorized & notated statutes as part of recodification of Tribal laws.

**Tvergastein: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the Environment**, Oslo, Norway

2011–2013

*Founding Editor and Editorial Coordinator*

- › Served as contact person with authors throughout submission and revision process.
- › Coordinated editorial board's review process and finalized articles for publication.

**KPTZ 91.9 FM**, Port Townsend, WA

2023-

*Radio Host and Programmer*

**KCSB 91.9 FM**, Santa Barbara, CA

2008–2009; 2020–2022

*Radio Host and Programmer*

- › Hosted weekly Sunday afternoon World Music radio program, fielding community calls, recording publishing rights data and ensuring compliance with FCC regulations. Returned to program and co-host Saturday afternoon music and discussion show.

# Application for Appointment to Port Townsend City Council

## Applicant Information

Applicant Name Nelson Neil M.  
Last First MI

Residence Address 1425 Katherine St Port Townsend 98368

Contact Phone 425 218 8429 Email Piecewurx@aol.com

Are you 18 or older?

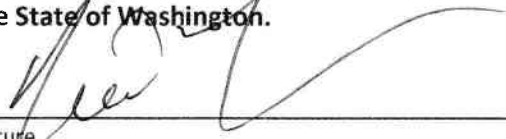
Do you reside in the Port Townsend City limits and have you done so for at least 1 year?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes	no

Are you a registered voter in Jefferson County?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
yes	no

The information is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and Laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

  
Signature

July 5, 2024  
Date

Please submit answers to the supplemental questions below, not to exceed 5 pages:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an appointed City Councilmember?
2. What is your understanding of and perspective on the City's most pressing challenges and opportunities?
3. What experience and skills would you bring to the role of a City Councilmember? How might you focus those skills and experience during your term?
4. Describe your leadership style. How do you most effectively work with others?
5. Describe your philosophy with public engagement. What matters most and what would you bring/add to the current way the City engages the community? How might you ensure that diverse perspectives are heard and measured in decision-making?
6. What is your understanding of our form of government (Council-Manager) and a City Councilmember's responsibilities? What's important to you in making sure the City Council, staff, and our community work most effectively together?
7. Describe what success looks like for you in this role and what it looks like for our Council and community.
8. What do you think your biggest challenge will be as an appointed City Councilmember? How do you intend to work through that challenge?
9. Is there anything else you want to tell us?

(Optional) Please feel free to attach a resume of no longer than 2 pages.

1. Why are you interested in serving as an appointed city council member?

Over the last several years I have come to realize that I have great interest in being of maximum service to my fellow man and to my community. As a small business owner and long-term resident of Port Townsend I have a great interest in seeing our community continue to thrive in today's uncertain times. I feel I can be part of the forward momentum this community needs. As a general contractor I am very near the affordable housing issues we face.

Serving on the planning commission has helped me become more involved in being of service to Port Townsend. It seems to me that being a member of the city council is the next step forward. The opportunity to serve on various committees such as Infrastructure and Development, and behavioral health is exciting to me. At the planning committee level, we just don't have that much opportunity to serve on committees for a broader range of purposes within the city.

2. What is your understanding and perspective on the City's most pressing challenges and opportunities?

Housing seems to be the single most pressing challenge we are up against. I am super familiar with these challenges on a personal level. As a general contractor I not only pay attention because it is my livelihood, but also because my employees struggle with living arrangements. I own some rental property and can discuss these issues from a very familiar perspective. I have a great interest in expanding my work to include building tiny homes and doing small developments. All of this is for the purpose of doing my part in helping ease our housing

3. What experience and skills would you bring to the role of a City Councilmember? How might you focus on those skills and experience during your term?

I listen extremely well. I hear all sides of any given situation. I think through issues carefully until I am very clear on how to proceed. I have learned during my time on the Planning commission that each issue is always far more involved and that all related viewpoints are very worthy of consideration. I pride myself on waiting until I have all the necessary facts before weighing in on any given subject. This promotes efficiency by not unnecessarily repeating views. I find that many issues resolve themselves if we simply have the patience to hear the entire story before rushing to decisions

4. Describe your leadership style. How do you most effectively work with others.

My leadership style is easygoing and relaxed. I listen carefully. I have empathy and try to understand the perspective of all sides. I try to avoid quick or rash judgement calls. Virtually every person has a reason that makes sense to them for whatever they do or say... My goal is to find that reason as much as it is to find a solution. So, the solution is fair and considerate of all. I have learned over many years of management that it is imperative to really hear where people are coming from and to be able to relate to them to be effective in working with others.

5. Describe your philosophy with public engagement. What matters most and what would you bring/add to the current way the city engages the community? How might you ensure that diverse perspectives are heard and measured in decision making?

The answer to the previous question also describes my philosophy related to public engagement. Heck, it is my philosophy for living the best life I can. Just listen. I mess up far more stuff by talking than I ever do by listening. And If I listen, and I hear, and I am thoughtful I often find decisions are made for me. At the very least I then know my personal feelings on a given issue at which point I can articulate answers based on my personal understanding Just listen. And hear.

6. What is your understanding of our form of government (Council-Manager) and City Council members responsibilities? What's important to you in making sure the city council staff and our community work most effectively together?

Google tells me that our form of government combines strong political leadership of elected officials with the strong managerial experience of and appointed city manager/ mayor. (Thanks, Google)

I believe that members of the city council through listening to the needs of the community, combined with education and a strong sense of civic duty should be creating the best policies, ordinance, and vision for the community. Our manager/ and or mayor is appointed to oversee the administrative process.

7. Describe what success looks like for you in this role and what it looks like for our council and community.

Success looks like ever increasing knowledge of how to work within our system so that I can be ever more effective. Being a part of creating policies that serve all of us. Helping Port Townsend continue to be the amazing place it already is and growing into the future.

8. What do you think your biggest challenge will be as an appointed City Councilmember? How do you intend to work through that challenge?

Still the biggest challenge for me is learning how to utilize my knowledge in the home improvement industry in creating proactive and useful legislation for our community. I have a ton of knowledge in the home building industry but in several years of serving on the planning commission I have come to find out that creating policy at even the local level is much slower and more cumbersome than in private business. I will continue to learn as much as possible about how to work within the parameters of city and state regulations to help promote and guide legislation and policy that helps serve all of us in our community.

9. Is there anything else you want to tell us?

I have included a very short resume to help show just how extensive my background in construction is. I believe this has helped provide much insight at the planning commission level. Recent discussion at the planning commission related to ADU, tiny home, and parking policy was certainly influenced to some degree by my knowledge in construction. My resume also helps show that almost my entire career has been spent dealing with many ideas from many different sources and helping guide any given situation to a successful end. I think dealing with the public in affordable housing is a natural next step for me.

Neil Nelson  
425 218 8429  
[Piecewurx@aol.com](mailto:Piecewurx@aol.com)

#### Resume summary

Currently, I am the owner of Piecewurx Construction in Port Townsend WA. Owner / project manager of multiple businesses related to home construction from 2000 to present. Very familiar with small and affordable home building requirements. Managing crews anywhere from just a few people up to 25 and more at a time. Superior communication and mediation skills.

#### 2017 to present

Owner of Piecewurx Construction and Remodeling, a Port Townsend based construction company specializing in new home and adu construction as well as remodeling. Responsible for a payroll of up to 25 people as well as large variety of subcontractors. Sales and public relations with clients, vendors, subcontractors, and counterparts in the industry is the primary duty I fill as owner.

#### 2015 – 2017

Project manager for Square Top construction. Responsible for section 8 and low-income remodeling projects. Managing crews and subcontractors in a production type environment. typically, 10 units per week.

#### 2013-2015

Project Manager for GreenPod Fabricators. Responsible for the construction of over 30 projects to various levels of completion depending on client requests. Managing crews and subcontractors while working with designers and engineers to provide high quality energy efficient homes on the Northern Olympic Peninsula

#### 2000 – 2007

Owner of Piecewurx Construction. 1<sup>st</sup> iteration of Piecewurx. Responsible for sales of multiple smaller remodeling projects and managing crews of up to 10 people

#### 1983 -1998

Sales rep for multiple nationwide vendors such as Stanley Works, Waxman Plumbing Industries, Angelo Brothers lighting. Also worked for a hardware industry merchandising company merchandising in home improvement stores across the country. Attended 2 years community college from 1991 – 1993.

#### Community Service,

Currently serving on the Port Townsend planning Commission. Working to understand and provide productive insight to the current comprehensive plan review. Served on pre-approved design committee

Speak regularly for 12 step recovery groups, drug court, and local treatment centers