Oak Ridger, The (TN)

Estimated printed pages: 2

June 11, 2007 **Section:** News

Beehan running for mayor; Miller wants No. 2 spot

John Huotari john.huotari@oakridger.com

Oak Ridge Mayor Pro Tem Tom Beehan is campaigning to be the city's next mayor, hoping to replace David Bradshaw. Oak Ridge City Councilwoman Jane Miller, meanwhile, is campaigning to be the next mayor pro tem, hoping to replace Beehan.

Their candidacies could be considered during a 7:30 p.m. June 18 Oak Ridge City Council meeting, when the seven-member legislative body is scheduled to elect from their own ranks a new mayor and mayor pro tem. Both serve two-year terms.

Pro tem is short for pro tempore, a Latin phrase meaning "for the time being." The mayor pro tem fills in for the mayor when the mayor is temporarily absent.

Beehan has experience as a mayor; he served as mayor of Covington, Ky., from 1983 to 1987.

In Oak Ridge, Beehan has served on the City Council since 2001 and has served as chairman of the Highland View Redevelopment Advisory Board, where he has helped lead efforts to revitalize neighborhood housing.

In a letter to council members, Beehan said he envisions the Highland View effort becoming a "model for the city to follow" in other Oak Ridge neighborhoods.

Also in that letter, Beehan, who has a bachelor's degree in philosophy, recommended revising the city council's strategic plan, "taking it to the next level" and using citizen input.

"The plan will help us stay focused on priorities and goals for Oak Ridge as we debate public policy and govern this city," he said.

In addition, Beehan said he wants council to support the call of Charlie Hensley, a newly elected council member, to revitalize the city's comprehensive plan.

"The comprehensive plan will help us remain focused on the best use of land throughout the city," said Beehan, recently retired as a senior agency consultant for State Farm Insurance Companies in Knoxville.

Hensley was one of three new council members elected in the June 5 Oak Ridge municipal election, replacing three who did not seek re-election, including Mayor David Bradshaw. The three new members, which include Tom Hayes and Ellen Smith, are scheduled to be sworn in at 4 p.m. Tuesday.

In her letter to council members, Miller said she has the "enthusiasm, energy, experience and commitment" to serve as mayor pro tem.

"With my public relations and business management experience, I am a proven team player and cheerleader for our city," said Miller, a council member since 2003. "I have made every effort to ensure that we celebrate our successes as often as we roll up our sleeves to tackle our problems."

Miller is a public relations specialist at BWXT Y-12, and in her letter to council, she touted her connections with regional, state and federal officials, as well as with business executives and Oak Ridge citizens.

http://nl.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=print&p_docid=119B6D528FF0B428

2/14/2009

Page 2 of 2

She also cited the three years she and Bradshaw have co-chaired Oak Ridge's annual Secret City Festival, increasing corporate sponsorships.

"My vision for Oak Ridge is a city that continues to offer a safe, high quality of life for all residents, maintains high standards of education, continues valued city services and improves our financial standing without undue tax burdens on the citizens," said Miller, who has a bachelor's degree in business management. "To achieve these goals, we must collectively develop a strategy to bring new sources of revenue to our city."

John Huotari can be contacted at (865) 220-5533.

Copyright 2007 The Oak Ridger. All Rights Reserved.