



May 5, 2018

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Supervisor Candidates Speak

A trio of Pottawattamie County Supervisor candidates spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on Saturday, May 5 plus a letter from another candidate was read. All are seeking to be elected or re-elected in the Tuesday, June 5 primary election.



Adam Houser, Lynn Grobe, Scott Belt

Scott Belt, a fellow Council Bluffs Morning Optimist, summarized his thirty years of public service. He is serving his second term as a County Supervisor. The mailing of annual budget reports sent to residents is an attempt to be more transparent. Supervising all the departments and trying to get all to work well is their job and he stated it is getting better. More cross training in technology is needed to utilize it to its maximum capability.

Belt stated because of the late winter, the county is already a month behind in repairs and it was one of the worst for infrastructure.

Supervisor Belt believes county politics shouldn't be partisan. He would like to see young people vote without being registered for a political party.

Lynn Grobe, a life-time farmer from Hancock, is a past supervisor. He lost by six votes in the last election; he feels it is very important to have rural representation. He stated the budget is in good shape. He stated he's probably the only one who has taken a ride in a school bus covering a route

on half gravel and half concrete roads checking out the condition.

Grobe has served eight years on a Mental Health/Disabilities Board for the state. He served 25 years on the Iowa West Foundation Board. He's worked with the Head Start program and enjoys helping with WIDA.

Grobe stated voting can be done starting Monday in person or by absentee ballot. Due to construction in the court house, voting will take place in the building south of the court house.

Adam Houser, running for his first term, lives in Carson, where he is serving his second term on the city council. Projects have included new streets, interior water treatment plant, strategic planning, developing a trail. Taxes were lowered 45 cents.

Houser has served over 20 years on the Carson Rodeo committee. He is a retired firefighter/EMT for the Macedonia fire department.

Houser states he has been attending supervisor meetings as much as possible. He agrees politics at the county level should not be partisanship as they are not legislating at this level. He supports WIDA (Western Iowa Development Association), which is geared towards economic development in the small towns in Pottawattamie County.

A letter was read from County Supervisor Justin Schultz, who couldn't be present because of National Guard training. He works for SIRE (SW Iowa Renewable Energy). He has served two combat tours in the infantry. There are 700,000 veterans in the county. He believes there should be an initiative for stable housing for homeless veterans.

Schultz stated that during his term of service the fund balance is over 44%, the bond credit rating has increased, and the supervisors have been

successfully lowering taxes each year he has been in office.

Schultz believes there are two key issues: 1) Develop a five-year rolling plan for maintaining over 1100 miles of gravel, 200 miles of hard surface roads, and 324 bridges in our county. 2) Find new mid-range housing opportunities and attract new businesses to provide jobs that are sustainable to increase economic development.

Meeting Minutes

Keith Denton called the meeting to order with 15 members present and 3 guests, Lynn Grobe, Adam Houser, and Scott Belt. Humor was provided by Chad Gutttau and Keith Denton. After the pledge of allegiance Dale Willenborg said the prayer.

Chad Gutttau won the 50/50 drawing. Bob Mantell won the attendance drawing but was not present. There were no anniversaries, but we sang for Keith Denton's upcoming birthday.

Bragging Rights dollars were contributed to the Youth Fund by Ken Graham for his grandson, Kory Graham, earning his Associates Degree from Grace University. Ann Vorthmann contributed dollars for the band contest at Red Oak, in which the 6th grade earned a 1 rating and the middle school earned a 1+ and for the Fine Arts night this past week. Mick Gutttau donated to announce his trip to DC with six Vietnam buddies recently to dedicate the monument for deceased VN helicopter pilots and crewmen in Arlington Cemetery. Scott Belt donated because his two-year old grandson's birthday is today. Chad Gutttau contributed to announce that next Saturday is the Master Gardener's Sale at Iowa School for the Deaf. Gary Gutttau stated that lots of plants are being contributed from the former Treynor Mayor and that he takes a trailer of fertile compost from the farm at a value of \$300-350, which is a popular item.

Community News: John Klein announced that Wendy Vorthmann at 18 Park St is giving away free bricks.

Under Old Business, Keith thanked John Klein for applying for the \$500 grant from Optimist International, which will be received to apply towards materials for building two sprinklers for the hydrant party. Volunteers from Zion Congregational Church will build the sprinklers. This will be ready for a 3:00 afternoon event during Treynor Days. It will be available to the Fire Department and other organizations for future parties. The Treynor City Council will be voting Monday whether to give us the water or charge us. (We encourage a donation.) Klein stated a volunteer leader is needed to head up the event during Treynor Days.

Gary Gutttau stated that the Can Kennel has brought in a total of \$155,011.58 in funds donated for youth purposes in Treynor since its inception. He announced that 79 flags have been purchased. Woodman of the World is donating twenty flags and also would like to speak at a meeting.

A pink "spiller" plant was donated by Dee Gutttau and purchased by Ann Vorthmann in the auction. Berkshire meeting free tickets were made available.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with the recitation of the Optimist Creed.

A Thought

A good architect can make an old house look better just by discussing the cost of a new one.

Calendar

May 16 Can Kennel Sorting with Zion Youth

Birthdays

May 21 Steve Irvin
May 22 Kirk Vorthmann

Anniversaries

Programs

May Gary Gutttau
June Lou Howell
July Ann Vorthmann (first 2 weeks)
Chuck Nielsen (last 2 weeks)

Speakers

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575