

July 27, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 7, 2017

One of the most challenging and exciting responsibilities an individual can assume is to become a mayor or council member. The business of city government and local leadership presents a unique opportunity to resolve issues, accomplish goals, and affect the future of your community.

The staff of the City of Marshalltown and the Iowa League of Cities offers training for city officials. One example of a training session available for city officials is the Municipal Leadership Academy (MLA), presented in partnership by the Iowa League of Cities, Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Iowa and Iowa State University Office of State and Local Government Programs. These training sessions are designed to cover the basics of city government in Iowa and are the best way for new officials to learn about the legalities and expectations of their new position and to meet both new and experienced city officials.

The City of Marshalltown currently conducts business on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, with a deferment at present time on the Committee of the Whole Discussion on alternating Mondays. The meetings are generally held at 5:30 PM, with additional work sessions anticipated during budget season (December - March) and special meetings when necessary. Annual compensation for council members is \$3,000 and the mayor receives \$7,500.

The City of Marshalltown has five four-year term vacancies on the November ballot. These vacancies include the mayor, two at-large council members, and a first and third ward council member. In order to hold office in the city, a candidate must be an eligible elector, meeting the same qualifications required to vote and be a resident of the city he or she plans to serve. If running for a council seat representing a specific ward, the candidate must be a resident of that ward. Officials elected in November, will take office the following January 1.

Nomination papers may be picked up at either the City Clerk's office or the County Auditor's office or downloaded from the Secretary of State's website. Nominees must obtain twenty-five eligible signatures of voters. Individuals signing nomination petitions must be a resident of the appropriate ward and eligible to vote for the candidate and not necessarily a registered voter. Candidate filing begins Monday, August 28 and ends with papers due at the City Clerk's office by 5 PM Thursday, September 21. The Secretary of State's website has additional information for candidates and voters.

<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/voterinformation/index.html>

For more information about how to participate in the city's decision-making process, please contact Shari Coughenour, City Clerk, at 754-5701.