

**Dana Smith**

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**From:** Emily Trivette <emilytrivette1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2017 2:06 PM  
**To:** Dana Smith  
**Subject:** City Council seat 6 Application

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## **Letter of Interest and Intent for the position of City Council Position #6**

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My name is Emily Trivette and I am hoping to gain the City Council position, #6. When my family started, we were in the depths of the great recession. I have lived in Ashland for almost ten years. I moved here with my one year old son and husband at the age of 22. We came here when the economy crashed in 2008 and my husband had to fold his construction business in Santa Ynez, CA. My parents retired to Ashland three years earlier and we were lucky enough to be able to move in with them in order to get back on our feet and find a place of our own in which to start over.

I quickly got a job at Nimbus, the high end retail store downtown, and my husband Tyler went to work for the Ashland Grange Co-op. We put our young son in day care and worked very hard until we were able to move into our own house. Over the following years, Tyler was given an opportunity to work for a local landscape company and we were able to move yet again, to a nicer house better suited to our growing family. I was eventually able to stay home to care for our now three year old and were expecting a second child. We had government assistance to help us with feeding our family and my parents helped with pre-school for my older son. Tyler continued to move up in the company until eventually we launched our own construction company in Ashland. We used our entire tax return so Tyler could get his license as well as launching a website and paying for advertising. I'm the office manager which includes budgeting salaries, filing taxes, accounts receivable, accounts due and mailing 1099's to our sub-contractors. I am in charge of our Public Relations and Marketing. I joined a well respected networking group, Business Networking International, and I am in charge of Marketing and Public Relations for our Ashland chapter, Ashland Business Connections. We have come a very long way thanks to the City of Ashland.

1-26-17 T/C JC Elections  
1 Confirmed lives w/in  
City limits + registered  
to vote - jf  
RECEIVED JAN 26 2017  
jf

I am a high-school graduate and instead of going to college I worked as a horse trainer until I met my husband and got married in 2007. I am a lover of books, I read anything I can get my hands on. I am a mother of two boys, 8 and 5, and I run a successful business with my husband. I teach spin class at the YMCA once per week, and I manage a working stable of 13 horses during the rest of the week. I am on the Ashland Little League Board as the Rookies Coordinator and I volunteer extensively with the Bellview PTO and within my childrens classrooms. I taught myself how to use QuickBooks so I can do all of our accounting, and I also taught myself how to do web design so we could have a beautiful website to share with our clients. I wake up every morning and make breakfast, get my kids off to school, and go to work. Its a good life.

You may wonder why I have given you my back story in such a fashion. Let me explain. I do not have college degrees and I have not run huge companies. My qualifications come from within. I am a traveler. I have been to several different countries and all over the United States. I am proactive in my community. I am civic minded and I truly care for other people and the City we live in. I am a voracious reader of history and science, with a few Sci-Fi's thrown in there once in a while. I know how to manage large groups of people (and animals) and I know how to do it with a mind of democracy and equality. Serving on the Little League Board for three years has taught me a lot about volunteering for a greater good of the community and I get true joy from it. I love volunteering at school and working with the PTO. I volunteer my time to give horse back riding lessons to bullied girls so they can know what it is to be confident and have self awareness and self -respect. I am, in no uncertain terms, your average hard working American success story. I have come from the bottom and worked my way up, to owning a home and running a company, however small it may be. I can identify with a lot of different demographics, and I feel that I would be a clear, positive voice for the hardworking people of our awesome City. We need more people in local government who truly understand the majorities voice. They are desperate to be heard, and I want to hear them and help them. I want to provide a womans voice, a woman who has gone from recieving government assistance in order to put food in my childrens stomachs, to a woman who is now successfully running a business and continuing as a full time mom as well.

**The biggest issues** I can see within our city, is the exponential growth of residences and business buildings and the vagrancy that has all but taken over our downtown and lovely YMCA fields.

Growth is a wonderful thing but not when it starts to change the face of a town or city. Ashland is a proud City and we love our open fields and working farms. For large developers to come in and build matching houses with little to no character, packed so tightly next to each other there are no yards in order to squeeze as much profit out of the land as possible, this poses a problem. Our town prides itself on the quaint feel as well as the progressive designs that improve everything around us. Large business complexes and housing tracts take us dangerously close to resembling a lot of the highly populated areas all over the country. Ashland is a special place that needs to keep its distinction from 'everywhere else'. Thats why we love living here! I would like to be a voice in helping Ashland maintain its ambience and charm.

The vagrancy problem. I am not without empathy. My sons and I regularly hand out sandwiches to some of the local homeless people and I have been known to give them jackets or socks when they are in need. The vagrants seem to be younger, on drugs or drinking, and they gather in our most beautiful and public parts of town. Downtown and at the YMCA. I live down the street from the Y and I see it firsthand. Yelling, litter, illegal fires, graffiti and theft. I would like to help find new ways to help the homeless people in need while creating a better alternative for the vagrants who post up in our downtown area panhandling and all in all, bothering a lot of our locals and out of town tourists alike. I want to find a way for us all to cohabit in a more positive way without being taken advantage of by the vagrants.

### **What is my motivation for seeking a city council seat?**

I have wanted to take a more active role in our local government for about a year now. After my experience on the Little League Board and working at the YMCA, I have realized my calling is to public service. This realization was cemented at 11:30pm on November 8th. I, and many fellow Americans have woken up from a complacent slumber, always trusting the people and the government to do the right thing. Well, as is evident we can no longer rely on other people, and it is time for voices and ideas like mine to be heard and executed. I am driven, and I want to help people at the same time as serving our City of Ashland.

### **What does a city councilor do?**

A city councilor helps with decisions regarding ordinances, finances, development and infrastructure of their City. A city councilor works closely with the Mayor to make the best decisions pertaining to their city. A city councilor is a voice for many and a lot of the time a voice of reason. A city councilor works for the people and businesses of their city.

I believe I have answered the other questions in my opening paragraph. Please consider me for the appointment. I would make an excellent addition and I am readily willing and able to work hard for our fellow Ashlanders as well as the Council itself.

Thank you for your time,  
Emily Trivette