

2020 CITY WATCH ELECTIONS & POLITICS

The 2020 Municipal Election

This year's municipal elections will not be remembered fondly in the future. They were postponed from April until June due to the COVID-19 pandemic; forced to take place in different locations than typical due to scheduling problems; held on the hottest night of the year so far in 2020; and staged against a backdrop of protests over police violence in Minnesota. Countywide, just less than 12% of all registered voters chose to participate. What follows are the results of the elections and ballot issues on ballots in Columbia, MO.

(Results of other municipal elections in other Boone County jurisdictions are not reported here, although we have provided a link to the Boone County Clerk official website here:

BOONE COUNTY MISSOURI OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

Columbia City Council – Election June 2, 2020

1st Ward

Fowler	657	68.94%
Anderson	244	25.60%
Pierson	52	5.46%

Pat Fowler, a 20-year resident of Columbia known for her involvement in historic preservation, North Central Columbia planning projects and the overhaul of the city's zoning code was first to file. She was elected to a three year term on the Columbia City Council.

Greg Pierson - He is a St. Louis area native, currently enrolled as a freshman at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is pursuing a degree in Business through the University's Trulaske School of Business.

Mark Anderson – He is a Columbia native, a downtown employee for several years and is the only African-American candidate in the race. He is running on platform he calls "One Columbia".

Incumbent Clyde Ruffin did NOT run for re-election, but due to the postponement of the April elections, Ruffin's term of office was extended until this election could be held. His last meeting was last night. Fowler will be sworn in at the next meeting of the city council.

5th Ward

Pitzer	1,754	99.04%
Write in	17	00.96%

Matt Pitzer – Pitzer is the incumbent and filed for re-election to that post. He was not opposed in his bid for re-election and received more than 99% of the vote.

Columbia Public School Board – Election June 2, 2020

Sessions	6,193	21.23%
Wade	7,800	26.73%
Horn	8,235	28.22%
Seamon	6,875	23.56%

Jonathan Sessions, an incumbent, filed to seek another term on the board. He was defeated in his bid for re-election.

Helen Wade, an incumbent, was re-elected.

Chris Horn filed for a seat on the Columbia School Board. He is a newcomer to politics and has not held elective public office. He works for Shelter Insurance. He was elected.

David Seamon has filed for one of the three available seats on the Columbia School Board. He had previously run as a candidate for Presiding Boone County Commissioner but was defeated by Dan Atwill in the Democratic primary in 2018. He was successful in his first bid for election to the Columbia School Board.

School Bond Issue – Columbia Public Schools

School Bond Issue	Yes	9,796	86.07%	No	1,585	13.93%
--------------------------	------------	--------------	---------------	-----------	--------------	---------------

The June 2, 2020 ballot included a \$20 million School Bond approval question. According to Columbia Public School officials, improvements to the Jefferson Middle School necessitate the new round of public borrowing. Proceeds from the bond issue are expected to fund the following items:

- \$6 million for accessibility improvements to Jefferson Middle School, including an elevator and other improvements
- \$7.5 million for new additions to one or more schools in the district
- \$3.3 million for athletic fields
- \$1 million for general safety and security improvements
- \$2 million for other general building needs throughout the Columbia Public School system

Other future school bond issues have also been discussed, with the next rounds of bond issues commencing in 2022.

Boone County Hospital Board – June 2 Election Date

Kennett and McDavid were elected to the two positions without appearing on the ballot since the total number of candidates did not exceed the total number of positions to be filled during this term.

Jerry Kennett – Incumbent – Has filed for re-election to another five-year term.

Bob McDavid – Incumbent by virtue of appointment – Has filed to complete the remaining four years in the term of office vacated by former trustee Brian Neuner.

(more)

UPCOMING ELECTION – AUGUST 4TH STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION
County Offices

Boone County Commission - Southern District

Fred Parry – The incumbent Southern District Commissioner is running for re-election as a Republican. He will not be challenged in the primary.

Justin Aldred – Aldred is 25 years old and serves as an officer in the Army National Guard. He announced his candidacy early in January of this year and will be running unopposed in the Democratic primary for this seat. Aldred lives in Ashland. Parry and Aldred will face off in the November General Election.

Boone County Commission – Northern District

Janet Thompson – Incumbent Northern District Commissioner has filed for re-election and will be unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Brenndan Riddles – Riddles is an electrician ran as a Republican for this same seat in 2016 and was defeated by Thompson.

Jim Musgraves – Musgraves is a career Navy veteran and a former MU associate professor of naval science. He filed as a Republican.

Sam Boyce – Boyce filed as a Republican. He currently works as a home builder and rental property manager. He grew up on a farm in Osage County as one of 13 children.

Tristan Asbury – He is the strategic Communications director for the Missouri Realtors Association and lives in Columbia. He previously worked for the City of Moberly and the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Asbury is a Republican.

Assessor

Kenny Mohr – Moore is a current employee of the Boone County Assessor's office and is the only person to file for this seat being vacated by incumbent Tom Schauwecker. Moore has filed as a Democrat.

Treasurer

Tom Darrough – Darrough, a Democrat, is the incumbent and will run unopposed.

Public Administrator

Sonja Boone – Boone is the incumbent Democrat and will run unopposed for re-election.

Sheriff

Dwayne Carey – Carey is the incumbent and has filed for re-election. He is a Democrat.

Charles Blair – Blair is currently a Boone County Deputy Sheriff and previously served as a California State Highway Patrol officer. He has filed as a Republican and will face Carey in the November election.

Circuit Judge - 13th Judicial Circuit

Josh Devine – Devine is a former Associate Circuit Judge, having been appointed to an open Division 11 position in 2018 by then Governor Eric Greitens. He was defeated by Stephanie Morrell in the November 2018 General Election. He is currently affiliated with the law firm of Rogers and Ehrhardt in Columbia. Devine is a Republican.

Andy Hirth – Hirth is a constitutional lawyer affiliated with TGH Litigation LLC in Columbia. He has formerly worked in the state Attorney General's office and in private practice with a law firm in Chicago. Hirth is a Democrat.

(Note: These two candidates will be seeking to fill the seat currently held by Jodie Asel, who will reach the mandatory retirement age of 70 in June of this year, even though her term runs until

December 31. Upon retirement, Governor Mike Parson may appoint someone to fill that seat temporarily (presumably a Republican). The permanent replacement will be determined in the November 2020 General Election.)

State Representatives and State Senators

State Senator – District 19

Caleb Rowden – Incumbent Republican
Judy Baker – Democratic challenger

State Representative – District 44

Cheri Toalson Reisch – Incumbent Republican
Jacque Sample – Democratic challenger.

State Representative – District 45

Kip Kendrick – Incumbent Democrat – Unopposed (Last term due to term limits.)

State Representative – District 46

Martha Stevens – Incumbent Democrat - Unopposed

State Representative – District 47

Chuck Basye – Incumbent Republican
Adrian Plank – Democratic challenger

State Representative – District 50

Sara Walsh – Incumbent Republican
Kari Chesney – Democratic challenger

Statewide and Federal Offices

Governor

Mike Parson – Republican (Incumbent)
Raleigh Ritter - Republican
Jim Neely - Republican
Sandra McDowell - Republican

Nicole Galloway - Democrat
Jimmie Matthews - Democrat
Antoin Johnson - Democrat
Eric Morrison - Democrat
Robin John Daniel Van Quaethem - Democrat

Rik Combs - Libertarian

Jerome Howard Bauer – Green Party

Lieutenant Governor

Mike Kehoe – Republican (Incumbent)
Arnie C. (AC) Dienoff - Republican

Aaron T. Wisdom - Republican
Mike Carter - Republican

Greg Upchurch - Democrat
Alissia Canady - Democrat

Bill Slantz - Libertarian

Kelley Dragoo – Green Party

Secretary of State

Jay Ashcroft – Republican (Incumbent)

Yinka Faleti – Democrat

Carl Herman Freese – Libertarian

Paul Lehman – Green Party

Paul Venable – Constitution Party

State Treasurer

Scott Fitzpatrick – Republican (Incumbent)

Vicki Lorenz Englund – Democrat

Nick Kasoff – Libertarian

Joseph Civettini – Green Party

Attorney General

Eric Schmitt – Republican (Incumbent)

Rich Finneran – Democrat

Elad Gross – Democrat

Kevin Babcock - Libertarian

U.S. Congress – District 4

Vickie Hartzler – Republican (Incumbent)

Neal Gist – Republican

Lindsey Simmons – Democrat

Robert E. Smith – Libertarian

Steven K. Koonse - Libertarian

U.S. Senate
(No open seats.)

CityWatch-Columbia Publications

The CityWatch-Columbia services five different publications that serve the business, government, investment, political community in Columbia Missouri. Those publications include the one you are reading now – **CityWatch Notebook** – which provides interesting statistics and news notes at various times each month.

CityWatch also publishes **Previews** of each City Council meeting throughout the year; **CityWatch Recaps** of EVERY regular City Council and Planning & Zoning meeting within 24 hours of the time those meetings end; and **CityWatch Focus** reports related to topics of special interest such as the budget process; short-term rentals; the zoning code; political races for Mayor and City Council; etc.

All of these publications are available on a subscription basis – and we offer various levels of participation that can meet the budget and professional needs of nearly every business or organization in town.

If you are not already subscribed, or if you haven't subscribed to a plan that includes all of our various reports and updates, send us an email and we will be happy to send you additional information regarding our subscription rates and plans. We'll even send you the next copy of our CityWatch Preview and City Council Recap at no cost – just so you can see what this is all about.

Send an email to citywatchcolumbia@gmail.com and we will take it from there.

There's a lot going on in Columbia in the next few months. And a lot of it could very well affect the way you do business in this community. Let us help you stay on top of the latest developments at City Hall.

Send us a note at citywatchcolumbia@gmail.com today!

©2020 CityWatch-Columbia

(This document may not be reproduced, redistributed or significantly cited in other works without the written permission of the author.)