



Applicant Information for City Council Vacancy

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue

Homer, Alaska 99603

Phone: (907) 235-3130

Fax: (907) 235-3143

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

The information provided on this form will provide the basic information to the Mayor and City Council regarding your appointment application. It is considered public and will be included in the City Council meeting packet for the meeting in which the interview(s) will take place.

Return all required forms and Letter of Intent (to be provided on a separate sheet of paper, preferably typed) to the City Clerk's Office, in original form, no later than Friday, November 1st, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Applicant Information

Full Name: Janette Keisen

Physical Address Where you Claim Residency: 759 Soundview Ave; Homer, AK

Mailing Address: 759 Soundview Ave.

City: Homer State: AK Zip: 99603

Phone Number(s): 206-714-8955

Email: jan@keisengroup.com

Are you a City Resident? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, how long have you been a City resident? 4 yrs 7 months +
How long have you been a resident of the South Peninsula Area? 37 years before 1985
8 years before 1985

Political & Government Experience

Elected and/or appointed positions held and the dates of service – List no more than three

- Homer Parks, Arts, Recreation, + Culture Advisory Committee - since Feb 2024
-
-

Business & Professional Experience

List no more than three

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>Public Works Director / City Engineer</u> | <u>City of Homer; AK</u> |
| 2. <u>Public Works Director / County Engineer</u> | <u>Skagit County; WA</u> |
| 3. <u>J. Keisen + Associates LLC</u> | <u>Bremerton, WA</u> |

Organizational Memberships

List no more than three

- Homer Soil + Water Conservation District
- Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Prent Museum

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October 29, 2024

RE: Letter of Intent Regarding City Council Position

Dear Madam Mayor and City Council of the City of Homer,

I am applying for the open seat on the City Council. I never had, and still do not have, political aspirations. However, the City is facing some critical issues in 2025. First, we are re-writing our Comprehensive Plan and its accompanying chapters of the Homer City Code. This work will affect developments in the City limits for years to come, which will undoubtedly influence our neighbors in surrounding areas outside the City limits. Plus, we have received reports that the City's sales taxes have declined in 2024. We have been advised we will need to "tighten our budget belts". Yet, we face deferred maintenance, understaffing, and a long wish list of capital projects in many departments. These are just two of the challenges facing the City. To successfully navigate these challenges, Homer, as a community, its Mayor and City Council will need to engage in soul searching, meaningful dialogue, and thoughtful decision-making. I'm applying because I think I can help.

I think in straight lines when facing a complicated mission. This is a product of my combined engineering and legal training, which taught me to rely on facts and measure consequences when making decisions. I am really good at researching information, connecting cause/affect relationships, and identifying sensible courses of action or policy. I love this work! It is fun, challenging, and rewarding! This is especially true when this work is done in the context of contributing to the greater good. That is why I have become, since I retired from full-time City employment early this year, an even more active community volunteer. It would be an honor and privilege to help you address the challenges and opportunities facing you.

I have been part of the PARCAC for just under a year, my first role as an appointed official. Before, I have always been part of staff; that is, on the side of the first line doers, not on the side of the policy makers. As you know, these are two very different roles. At first, it was challenging for me to navigate the transition. I have learned a lot from Staff, the City Clerk's office, and the veteran-PARCAC members about how to do this. I have also learned that no matter how strongly I might feel about an issue, I need the support of my PARCAC teammates to make meaningful progress. This experience has helped me be a more effective policy maker and advocate for PARCAC's mission. I will bring this experience to the City Council. I look forward to talking with you about how I can contribute to your team.

Respectfully,



Janette ("Jan") Keiser