



Notice of Municipal Election, October 1, 2024

To be held **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024, 7:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers at the City of Craig Municipal Building on the corner of Third and Main Streets. **DISTRICT 35 PRECINCT 705.** There is one voting precinct for the City of Craig.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee voting begins Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 8:00 am and ends Monday, September 30, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

Absentee by mail applications can be filled out at City Hall. If you know of anyone who is unable to get to City Hall to vote or who has special needs, please contact the City Clerk at 907-826-3275 or cityclerk@craigak.com.

<https://www.craigak.com/citycouncil/page/notice-municipal-election-october-1-2024>

Officers to be Elected:

City Council

Seat C: Three-Year Term

Seat D: Three-Year Term

School Board

1 Seat: Two-Year Term

1 Seat: Three-Year Term

Candidate Spotlight

Shauna Thomas is running for City Council Seat C and submitted the following letter:

I am submitting this letter to formally declare my intent to run for Seat C on the City of Craig Council. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to serve my community and bring my skills and experience to this important role.

I was born in Ketchikan and raised in Craig. I sincerely love helping people! Through my previous roles as a Behavioral Health Aid II at SEARHC, and as a Tlingit & Haida Community Navigator, I had the opportunity to listen closely to the needs of the many community members and provide them with the appropriate support and resources.

I strongly support the Craig City School District and economic growth. I believe that my experience and dedication to these causes will allow me to effectively advocate for the needs and interests of our residents.

I have served on the City Council since November 2023, maintaining excellent attendance and actively volunteering to attend numerous finance and planning and zoning meetings. I am committed to working collaboratively with fellow Council members, local businesses, and residents to implement strategies that will benefit our entire community. I am fully committed to dedicating my time and energy to serving on the City Council.

Thank you for considering my application. I am excited about the possibility of serving our community in this capacity and look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the continued growth and success of the City of Craig.

Sincerely,
Shauna Thomas

Janice “Jan” Yvonne Trojan is running for City Council Seat D and submitted the following letter:

Came to Craig 2007, resident since 2008. I love the citizens of Craig and Prince of Wales. I served 2 terms of City Council. Goals to preserve the history of Craig, to keep law and order without limiting every citizens rights; especially to freedom. Keep Craig, Craig, to preserve cultural significance. I am a strong supporter of business and veterans. I have no hidden agendas. The beauty of Craig to me was to see practical people of Craig being politically active on all things Craig; the harbor, the history, the school, taxes and changes in society. Goals: keep the people above outside influences.

Candidate Spotlight

Aaron D. Bean is running for City Council Seat D and submitted the following letter:

My name is Aaron Bean, and I am proud to be running for a seat on the Craig City Council. I am 45 years old, born and raised in Sitka, Alaska, where I developed a deep appreciation for the values and resilience of a small Alaskan community. My roots run deep in this state, and I bring a wealth of experience and dedication to the table, honed through years of service and commitment to the people.

My early career as a police officer under the leadership of Jim See provided me with a strong foundation in public service and an unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of our community and the law in general. This experience taught me the importance of integrity, transparency, and accountability—qualities that I promise to uphold as your representative on the City Council.

In 2001, I moved to Craig, where I met my wife, Mellissa, and together we moved to Sitka where we started our family. In 2020 we decided to move back to POW, where we continue raising our three wonderful sons. As a family man, I understand the importance of ensuring that Craig remains a safe, vibrant, and prosperous place for future generations. My work with the Craig Tribal Court, at the Craig Tribal Association has deepened my understanding of the challenges and opportunities our community faces, particularly in matters of justice, equity, and cultural preservation.

In addition to my work at the Tribal Court, I own and operate a charter fishing business. This experience has given me firsthand insight into the critical role that small businesses play in our local economy. I am committed to supporting and advocating for policies that foster economic growth, protect our natural resources, and ensure that Craig remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

As your City Council member, I will bring a balanced perspective that reflects both the traditional values of our community and the forward-thinking vision we need to thrive in the future. I am committed to listening to your concerns, being your voice in local government, and working hard to make Craig a better place for all of us.

I respectfully ask for your support and your vote in the upcoming election. Together, we can ensure that Craig continues to be a strong, connected, and thriving community.

Aaron Bean

The following candidates are running to be on the Craig City School District School Board:

Bonnie Morris — 3 year term

Hans Hjort — 2 year term

Propositions for Craig Voters to Consider on October Ballot

Proposition 1: TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX
Shall the City of Craig, Alaska increase the levy and collect a tax equal to ten dollars per day for occupied hotel rooms?

- YES
- NO

Proposition 1 is included on the 2024 Craig Municipal Election Ballot at the request of the Craig City Council. This proposition would increase the existing hotel (bed) tax from \$5 per room per night to \$10 per room per night. The original bed tax was enacted in 2017 and has not been increased since its original enactment. The proposed bed tax is consistent with other bed taxes by municipalities in Alaska. According to the *Lodging Tax Study* published by the American Hotel & Lodging Association in September 2020, the average bed tax for studied communities in Alaska is 8.4% (\$8.40 per \$100 of room charges). This change will generate approximately \$22,000 in additional general fund revenue for the city. If approved, this tax increase would go into effect January 1, 2025. A copy of the AHLA study can be found at:

<https://d15k2d11r6t6rl.cloudfront.net/public/users/Integrators/c2036c03-dbf6-4270-99c5-7afb8a06e2b9/OHLA/2020%20AHLA%20Tax%20Study.pdf>

Propositions for Craig Voters to Consider on October Ballot

- Proposition 2:** SALES TAX RATE
Shall the City of Craig increase the sales tax from 5% to 7% between April 1 and September 30 and from 5% to 6% between October 1 and March 31 with the additional sales tax revenue generated by the increased sales tax dedicated to funding the Craig City School District?
- YES
 - NO

Proposition 2 is included on the 2024 Craig Municipal Election Ballot at the request of the Craig City Council. This proposition would change the existing 5% year-round sales tax to a seasonal sales tax of 7% in the summer (April 1 – September 30) and 6% in the winter (October 1 – March 31). The purpose of this sales tax increase would be to provide additional general revenue funding dedicated to supporting the Craig School District. This increase is estimated to generate an additional \$750,000 - \$800,000 per year which would be used to help fund the Craig City School District. If approved this sales tax change/increase would go into effect January 1, 2025.

A statement from the CCSD Superintendent, Jackie Hanson: In October, the City of Craig will see a City/Seasonal Sales Tax Proposal on the ballot, which is in response to the lack of state funding for education. If passed, the additional revenue will provide direct benefit to our kids and the education they receive at Craig City School District. With that said, it's CCSD's hope that our community will pull together on behalf of our children and their education- they are our future and worth our investment.

- Proposition 3:** INITIATIVE TO REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL FOR DISPOSAL OF LANDS AT TRACT A, USS 1429
This ordinance, proposed by initiative, subjects the disposal of any portion of Tract A, USS 1429 as shown on Plat 2009-18, Ketchikan Recording District, to the approval of the qualified voters of the City of Craig. This ordinance applies to any disposal of the subject property where a deed is not recorded prior to the effective date of this ordinance. If this ordinance is approved, it will be effective upon certification of the election.

- Should this ordinance become law?**
- YES
 - NO

Proposition 3 is included on the 2024 Craig Municipal Ballot by the voter initiative process. This ordinance, if approved would require voter approval for the disposal of any part of Tract A, USS 1429 (commonly referred to as the “Craig Cannery Property”). This ordinance would apply to all sales of the property where a deed was not recorded with the State of Alaska Recorder’s Office prior to the ordinance’s effective date. If approved, this ordinance would be effective once the 2024 election is certified (scheduled for October 3, 2024). A complete copy of the proposed ordinance is included below.

**CITY OF CRAIG
ORDINANCE No. ____**

SUBJECTING THE DISPOSAL OF CITY OWNED LANDS AT TRACT A, USS 1429, TO APPROVAL OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF CRAIG

Section 1. Classification. This is a non-code ordinance.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon certification of the election described in Section 4.

Section 4. Action. This ordinance subjects the disposal of any portion of Tract A, USS 1429 as shown on Plat 2009-18, Ketchikan Recording District, to the approval of the qualified voters of the City of Craig. Approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the City of Craig voting on the matter satisfies the determination required by the Craig Municipal Code 16.03.020.B that the disposal is in the best interest of the City of Craig. This ordinance applies to any disposal of the subject property where a deed is not recorded prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

Effective Date: _____, 2024.

BOXHOLDER
CRAIG, AK 99921

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Craig City Council:

Mayor Kasey Smith
Hannah Bazinet
Shauna Thomas
Josh Bennett
Michael Kampnich
Millie Schoonover
Chanel McKinley

CCSD School Board:

President: Hans Hjort
Vice President: Trish Conaster
Member: Julie McDonald
Member: Ben Page
Member: Jim Seley

**CRAIG MUNICIPAL ELECTION: OCTOBER 1, 2024
FROM 7:30 AM—8:00 PM**

**ABSENTEE VOTING: SEPTEMBER 11—30, 2024
FROM 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM**