

Einspahr and Sinner seek seats on the Village Board

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 01 November 2012 18:19 -



By Sheri Hink

The Wauneta Breeze

Next week Nebraska voters will go to the polls during the general election. Local issues on the ballot include two open seats on the Wauneta Village Board.

The two seats up for election are those currently held by Lloyd Sinner and Lynn Brunkhorst.

Sinner has indicated his intent to run for reelection and will be listed on the ballot.

According to Chase County Election Commissioner Debbie Clark Brunkhorst has not filed for reelection.

Although he missed the deadline to appear on the ballot, Rick Einspahr has filed an affidavit with the county clerk stating his intentions to run for the village board as a write-in candidate.

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Clark said the affidavit was not required, but by filing it, the name voters write in on the ballot will not have to be the exact spelling.

“If we can tell that Rick was their intention, we can count the vote,” she said.

As of noon Monday no one else has filed an affidavit with the County Clerk showing his/her intentions to run for one of the two village board seats as a write-in candidate.

Sinner and Einspahr responded to a brief questionnaire sent to them by the Breeze in which they gave an overview of their backgrounds as well as their thoughts on the village board seat they are seeking.

RICK EINSPAHR, a republican, grew up on the farm in rural Wauneta and graduated from Wauneta High School in 1974. He moved back to the farm after college and moved to Wauneta in 1983, purchasing the home that he currently lives in.

Einspahr graduated from McCook Junior College in 1976 with an associates of arts degree.

He is currently a managing partner in the HomeTown Agency. Along with his partner, Terry Engell, also of Wauneta, and his wife, Cindy, established the HomeTown Agency in 1996, which consisted of an office in Wauneta and one in Cambridge. They have since grown the agency to include offices in Wauneta, Cambridge, Ogallala, Grant, McCook and Arapahoe.

Einspahr’s previous board experience includes serving on the Wauneta Public School Board and the Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools Board from 1984 to 2004. He served as president for the last four years of his tenure. He has also served on the McCook Community Foundation

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board and currently serves on the Chase County Fair Board.

Einspahr and his wife Cindy of 36 years have three children and four grandchildren including daughter Jennifer, married to Brad Jenny and their son Miles who reside in Crete; son Rogan Einspahr and his wife Ashley and their children Addelyn and Riley of Wauneta; and daughter Kayla, married to Adam Landerfield and their son Carter who reside in Lincoln.

LLOYD SINNER, a republican, moved to Wauneta on Aug. 15, 1953.

Sinner graduated from Culbertson High School. He then served two years in the Army. After leaving active duty with the Army he served as active reserve for four more years.

He owns and operates Sinner's Paint and Body Shop in Wauneta.

Sinners' previous board experience includes 16 years on the Wauneta Village Board. He also served on the Wauneta Volunteer Fire Department for 46 years, 28 years as chief. He has also served on the Utility Board when it was here.

Sinner and his wife, Gloria, have two daughters, Barbara and Donna.

Q&A responses

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Each of the candidates gave the following written responses to the questions below:

Q: Why are you seeking this board position?

Einspahr: I am seeking this board position as I believe taxes, in the coming years, will play an even more integral part in our lives than they do now, and I would rather be working alongside a fiscally responsible board, than sit and complain and have no way to provide a solution.

Sinner: To try to keep the town going in the same way it has been.

Q: Is there anything you would like to see done differently by the village board or are there areas of concern you feel are not being addressed?

Einspahr: I really have "NO" axe to grind with the current board and feel they have done an excellent job in the running of the day-to-day operations of our village.

Their efforts in working hand-in-hand with other members of our community, in raising money to save our nursing home, plus take on the added responsibility to assist in the operations, without raising taxes to do so, was impressive to say the least.

Sinner: No comment.

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Q: What are the community's greatest assets and biggest shortcomings?

Einspahr: Our community's greatest assets are the people of the community and the businesses that serve them. I know that sounds like a "politically correct" answer, but I do believe we have that here.

I have always felt like there could be a better connection and a spirit of "working together" with our school system, even when I was serving on the school board.

I'm not sure what creates that, but would like to have a more "working togetherness" type of environment with our school board, administration and the education associate.

I would like to pursue ideas of providing services that can serve both entities and the communities they serve.

Sinner: The community's biggest assets are having their own utilities and also to try to keep all the people who are in business here going strong, also the senior center.

Q: What are the challenges facing Wauneta over the next four years?

Einspahr: I believe the greatest asset of Wauneta and rural Nebraska in general is that it is located in a state where all the things our founding fathers meant for this country is still found near and dear. We still believe "less government" is a better way of life.

I believe a major challenge is that we are headed into tough times as a country. We will have to continue to work together, like years ago when neighbors helped neighbors, because that is

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what we do. We need to provide “a hand” to assist one another instead of looking for “a handout.”

Wauneta is a beautiful place to live and I would like to assist in continuing that way of life for our children and grandchildren.

Sinner: Wauneta’s challenges over the next four years is to try to keep up on the water problem and keeping the nursing home going for the residents who are there and the people who are employed there.