

The city scene . . .

Strong, large field looms for city races

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One of the largest and strongest field looms for the three City Council races for the Nov. 6 municipal elections.

Already three surprise candidates have announced and at least three more are expected, and perhaps more. The three highest in the election win the positions as there are no more runoffs as had been the case in earlier elections.

As had been expected beforehand, Jim R. Freeman, who has served four four-year terms, announced he would not seek a fifth term.

Another incumbent Charles L. Clark, who had been listed as undecided, also announced he would forego re-election. He was appointed two years ago to fill a vacancy.

The other incumbent, Sam Sakaguchi, who also was appointed two years ago to fill a vacancy, however, is expected to seek to retain his seat on the council.

Scratching from the list by Freeman and Clark leaves these races wide open. Sakaguchi's popularity has not been tested at the polls and his election to win one of the three seats is by no means assured.

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The three who have already announced are Albert S. Pasta, speech pathologist; Marion P. Orme, EG&G, health physicist supervisor and veteran chairman of the Idaho Falls Planning and Zoning Commission and also member of the Bonneville County Planning and Zoning Commission; and William R. Hatch, a member of a pioneer family, former attache with the U.S. Foreign Service and more recently engaged in the real estate and business community.

They each have certain followings that could make them strong challengers for a city seat.

There is a possibility others not mentioned in pre-election rumors are also considering making the race.

The City Council raised the councilmen wages from \$4,200 to \$4,800 a year, and this could be a campaign issue. The park

beer ban, zoning and how the city has conducted its general operations also loom as issues.

The filing period is Sept. 27-Oct. 9, giving candidates four weeks of campaigning. Registration for those who didn't vote previously is taken at the Bonneville County Election office.

Some developments have taken place about other rumored candidates.

Sakaguchi and City Clerk Roy C. Barnes, who is recuperating from surgery, are organizing their campaigns and are expected to formally announce later this month.

Dr. Fred Tingey, director of the new Idaho Falls Center for the University of Idaho and former EG&G executive, and former Idaho Falls school board chairman, said he now feels leaning against entry; while Alex Creek, oil wholesaler and former city councilman, and Wes W. Deist, athletic manager for an Idaho Falls sporting goods store, are still probable contenders.

All these four could be considered formidable candidates.

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Art Chandler, former veteran fireman and now retired, and now a credit union company executive, is now reported considered a possible entry.

Also taking out papers is Wendell Camp, who has entered in previous elections but has

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