

March 5, 2018

Dear Mayor Stromberg and members of the City Council,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you to tender my resignation from the Ashland City Council.

I have been looking for a new home in Ashland for some time, and finally found the perfect one. Although I searched for a home extensively within city limits, the new home is just outside city limits, which will mean I would need to resign my City Council seat (Position 6).

With the unexpected resignation of Councilor Lemhouse and the process for filling council position #3, I have been deliberating about what is the best course of action for me and to take. While I do not plan to move until the first week in April - I have come to the conclusion that I should resign now, and let the Council go through whatever the appointment process will be. A resignation by me in April would stretch the appointment process for another councilor out two more months. It makes more sense to me to for the council to go through the process of filling council position #6 without delay - and then let the new council get to know each other and begin their work together.

I must recuse myself for the selection of the person to fill council position #3, as two of the candidates are my employers.

I have the deepest respect for each and every one who serves, and has served on the Ashland City Council. It is a challenging job with extensive citizen participation and constituents' conflicting values for the future of Ashland. And, as a volunteer position, to do so by giving one's time away from family and other obligations in service to the City.

I plan to continue to participate in civic activities as Executive Director of the Ashland Emergency Food Bank and service through Rotary and other organizations.

Thank you for the honor of serving with all of my fellow Councilors, Mayor and the excellent staff.

Sincerely,

Traci Darrow