

KELLER CITIZEN FEBRUARY 4, 2016 2:56 PM

Candidates file in Keller, Westlake, Trophy Club races

BY MARK DAVID SMITH
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Some candidates have jumped into area city council races as many have already filed for seats up for grabs.

Keller

So far, there's only one candidate for two expiring spots on the Keller City Council.

Council seats in Places 3 and 4 expire in May, and one incumbent won't run for re-election.

Tom Cawthra, Place 3, announced in January through a city news release that he will not seek re-election. He declined an interview request.

Bill Dodge, Place 4, filed for re-election on the first filing day, Jan. 20. As of Friday, no one else had filed for either place, according to the city secretary, Sheila Stephens.

A recall for Mayor Mark Mathews also will be on the May 7 ballot.

The recall petition against Mathews was spearheaded by a small group of residents who have accused him of conflicts of interest and malfeasance. Mathews has defended himself against the claims from the "political group," saying they are false and unfounded.

Trophy Club

Incumbent Greg Lamont, 72, filed for re-election to Place 5. He's retired.

Seeking re-election for Place 6 is incumbent Phillip Shoffner, a 47-year-old business owner.

Westlake

In the Westlake race, there are three town leadership positions up for grabs in May. All incumbents and one challenger have filed for election.

Two at-large positions on Town Council, currently held by Michael Barrett and Alesa Belvedere, will expire in May, as will the position of mayor, currently held by Laura Wheat.

As of Friday, Barrett, Belvedere and Wheat had all filed for re-election. Newcomer Colin Stevenson has also filed for the office of mayor.

The term for each office is two years.

The deadline to file for all races is Feb. 19 The election will be on May 7.

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