

John Johns is a Voluntary Spending Limit Candidate

The views expressed in the statement below are those of the candidate and do not reflect the views of the city or its officials and do not constitute an endorsement of the candidate or committee by the city or its officials

Candidate Statement

Howdy, my name is John Johns, and yes, that is my birth name. The Johns family goes back nine generations to the beginning of this country, and we take considerable pride in being part of the leadership and the assembly of the American dream. I was born here in Ukiah at the old, old General Hospital on Dora Ave, I learned to swim at the Todd Grove Park Pool, went to school at Frank Zeek, Nokomis, Pomolita, and then graduated from Ukiah High School in 1975. I went on to serve in the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, as a Demolition Specialist and a Construction Draftsman for nine years, then studied at the Santa Rosa Junior College where I met my wife Deann. We were married in 1981, and have raised two smart and beautiful daughters.

While living in Sonoma County I had a variety of jobs, including a Blue Printer, Offset Printer, Stat Camera Tech, and a Form drafter. Later I was employed by a large apparel company Lifeforms International, Inc. as an Industrial Designer, and most recently I worked in the sign and imaging business. My family moved back to Ukiah in 1997, and in the early 2000's I started John Johns Sign Co, which got me involved with the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce and the Ukiah Main Street program. I worked with the 'Be Local' campaign for years, and have spent multiple Wednesday nights in the chamber hall. These days I have an organic farm; I sell my extra produce at multiple Farmer's Markets here in Mendocino County, and have served as a member of the Operating Committee for the Farmer's Markets since 2010.

The next four years will definitely be an exciting time for Ukiah. I have visions of assisting with implementing ongoing smart growth plans for Ukiah that will provide a balance between residential and commercial developments, to ensure our city is forever self-sustainable. Like many others, I would love to see the railroad working again. Our county would benefit from having commuter and tourist trains come to Ukiah, and it would give us the opportunity to revamp the whole railroad corridor from the Fairgrounds to the Mendocino Brewing Company. I am looking forward to a new downtown with wider sidewalks, and safer pedestrian and cyclestrian access. It would be great to see the Palace Hotel project completed; all shiny and sparkly and including a bar, wine tasting, multiple store fronts, offices, and maybe some nice apartments for young folks. That would surely help downtown Ukiah bustle and thrive again!

As a fresh voice on the City Council, I will approach issues with unique perspective, independent spirit, and years of marketing experience. My successful years in the sign business have given me the ability to make measured and balanced decisions when dealing with our cities complex issues. I am an autonomous candidate and I promise to cast my votes based on what is best for the future of Ukiah and its residents.

John Johns