

Voters' Guide – 2021 Billings Election Updated

(See Ballot Initiatives - Local Option Sales Tax update)

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(Please Pass this on. If you don't live in Billings forward it to a Billings friend)

This guide is pointed toward the Billings City Council. If you don't live in Billings, **please pass it to a friend** in Billings. Also, I am supporting **Dr. Albert Olszewski** for Congress in the West. That primary will be in June, but **now is the time to support** him financially – our contributions from the east can make the difference. **See info below on Al at the bottom.**

Why City Councils Matter:

Aside from normal issues like water and sewage, these officials also affect zoning which can morph into things like [Agenda 21](#) issues that discourage single family housing. Equally as important, public officials will use their platforms to promote their causes. Councilman Mike Yakawich has become a spokesman in Billings for control of drugs and substance abuse. On the other hand, Council women Kendra Shaw and Penning Ronning recently spoke out at an [abortion rally](#). **Even on these issues, they indirectly represent you.** In the past, Councilmen have pushed for NDO's that arguably are Legislative matters. **Your councilmen are huge influencers.**

My Six Principles of Voting:

- 1st. My bottom line** – is the candidate **a consistent conservative** that will promote Christian based values?
- 2nd. Never vote based on friendships** – vote based on principles and values. Separate relational-emotional interests from principles.
- 3rd. Don't get in a hurry to vote.** Liberals love early and mail in voting. So many times, I hear *"I would never have voted for him if I had known..."* and the information came out after they voted.
- 4th. Don't rely on mailer information** you get in your mailbox. Do your homework and listen to people you trust. Case in point – Penny Ronning won in Ward 4 in 2016. Her flyers made her sound **like a Reagan conservative** and

she is a Progressives activist, that will probably run for the legislature. Talk to the candidate in person.

5th. Be discerning, listen between the lines. Liberals know they can't win on Socialist values – they are masters at sounding conservative. Messaging conservative values in short sound bites is difficult. Don't be a sucker for emotional appeals.

6th.Vote Principles not Gender – oh yes, many will vote for a woman ONLY because she is a woman. Of all the women I have known on the council the last three elections, only one was and is consistently conservative. Most were radically liberal.

What is an NDO and why does it matter?

I have spent a decade researching LGBTQ *activism* and that is what NDO's are. City based Non-Discriminations Ordinances became a factor after the Montana Legislature refused to impose one. So, the liberal cities adopted NDO's allegedly to protect LGBTQ people. While we want to treat this community **with respect**, their activists have been VERY clear that **their long-term agenda is to destroy the moral foundation of America**. In fact, since Missoula invoked an NDO a decade ago, not one complaint has been validated by the Montana Human Campaign even though this organization is LGBTQ to the hilt. **On balance, favoring an NDO is a signal of a candidates leaning Progressive**. We currently have 2 DSA members and 2 sympathizers on the council largely because of voter ignorance.

Other issues:

- ✚ My comments are intentionally **direct, but not personal**. In some cases, they are based upon years of observation. While I do not claim perfection in this guide, I do my best to research the candidates and issues.
- ✚ A Ward map can be found at <http://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/mapping/downloads/blqs-wards-color.pdf>
- ✚ **This guide will be updated** and put on the [Big Sky Worldview webpage](#). Stay tuned.

City Council in a Nutshell:

Billings City Council - My Choices: (note color code, my choices are in descending order) See **also expanded comments on City council below.**

Ward 1: Conservative small government vs. larger government Globalist Agenda 21

Stephanie Krueger – Consistent, solid conservative. Supports healthy business climate. Retired Major - MT National Guard. Business owner. Lower taxes. Married 20 - years two children. Pro-Life person of faith. **Against an NDO.** Stephaniekruegerfmt@gmail.com 406-861-7657

Ed Gulick – Activist Progressive. Green new deal architect. [Globalist-Agenda 21](#) advocate. Program Manager for the Green Resource Center in Berkley, CA before he came to Billings. Favors big government and higher taxes. Advocate for Sustainable Development. **For an NDO.** edbillings@gmail.com 406-698-2747

Ward 2: Huge differences - requires discernment and careful listening.

Frank Ewalt – **Incumbent - consummate Straight shooter.** Very solid, analytical, consistent, no-nonsense **conservative.** Lower taxes and smaller government footprint. Direct, his viewpoints are clear and **not ambiguous.** **Every dime** of support is local. Focus on business that is clearly city business. Opposes a Public Safety Mill Levi in its current form – also a Convention Center. Pro-Life, Person of Faith. **Clearly Against an NDO.** 1tiewired@gmail.com 406-861-8964

Jennifer Owen Inconsistent - Trust is an issue. Articulate but *smooth*. Viewpoints are often ambiguous. Presents herself as a conservative, but advocates for moderate to liberal principles. Against higher taxes and big government, but advocates for programs that will be the opposite. Former leader in Head Start an [expensive, liberal government failure](#). On the [Office of Political Practices web site](#) – you can discover that a significant portion of her **financial support** is coming from **outside** of Billings and outside of Montana. **Against an NDO before she was for it:** (See notes below) owenforbillingsward2@gmail.com 406-272-5129.

Ward 3: Clear Choice: Marxist activist vs. Free market Businessman.

Charlie Loveridge - Consistent **conservative.** Business owner employs 43 people. Long time Billings community leader. **Family man.** Charlie is a proven leader in

Billings. Pro-Life, person of faith. **Against an NDO.** Charlie4billings@gmail.com. 406-670-3796

Denise Joy – Incumbent. Member of **Democratic Socialist of America** - Marxist organization. Tax and spend advocate. Teacher's assistant. In a **cohabitating** relationship with the other Ward 3 Councilman. Much of **her funding** from Progressive organizations like Montana Rural Voters and other groups that front conservative but are far Left. **For an NDO** and all things LGBTQ. It is stunning to think that Ward 3 ever elected this lady. denise@denisejoyforbillings.com 406-647-0337. .

Ward 4: Clear choice conservative vs. Two liberals.

Daniel Tidswell – Consistent **conservative**. Business executive with GM. For smaller government. Against senseless spending, lower taxes. **Family** man. Endorsed by [Montanans for Limited Government](#). Pro-Life, person of faith. **Against an NDO.** danforbillings@gmail.com 406-839-5232

Tim Warburton – Progressive liberal. All about more money for parks. Tim has demonstrated that more his desire for more money for parks has no bounds. Those who have worked with him on the parks board contend that he is arrogant and not interested in public opinion. Big government. Higher taxes. **For an NDO.** Timbarburton406@gmail.com 406-861-3202

Mary Hernandez – Long time **Progressive activist** at the state and national level. Rocky Mountain College *Institute for Peace* studies director. On the **ACLU boards** of directors at the national and the local level – it was founded by Marxists. A founder of the pornographic Venture Theater. But wait, on her last mailing she changed her toon. Suddenly, nothing about being on the ACLU boards or a dozen other non-profit boards. **or an NDO.** Maryhernandez.08@gmail.com 406-998-4229

Ward 5: Problematic choice – seeming conservative vs. big spending liberal.

Fred Wilburn – running as a conservative with mixed reviews. Fred is against the mantra of making Billings into Missoula. **Against an NDO** frederickjwilburn@gmail.com 406-281-2636

Tom Rupsis – One thing for sure, a vote for Tom is a vote for higher taxes and parks, parks and more parks. Those who have worked with him on the parks board contend that he is arrogant and not interested in public opinion. Very liberal progressive. **Claims to be undecided on an NDO but would probably support one.** tom@tomrupsis.com 406-545-0701

Dennis Ulvestad – liberal, has run many times, not physically fit for the job

Ballot Initiatives to Consider:

Issue #2 Public Safety Initiative: VOTE NO not yet. In an hour when there are much needed sympathies for police, we need clear thinking. **The need is not the call** to spending without a planning. This is an issue that **needs a long term,** comprehensive plan to be addressed **jointly with the city, county and the legislature. Yes, crime is up and public safety is an issue.** Before asking for more money, we need plan, not a bandage that will have to be fixed later.

An accomplished analyst, Larry Seekins **asks some questions** that we should consider find them [here](#). For example, what are the other real alternatives besides the one being presented? What are the additional costs and increased benefits of each alternative? How much have the Fire and Police budgets increased? How has the \$4 million dollar increase in the Public Safety mill levy passed last year been utilized? Will the recent dramatic increase in Billings home appraisal rates also increase the homeowner's taxes? Police: It has been reported **that 93 individual chronic high utilizers use \$10.4** million dollars in public services each year. How will adding 28 more police officers and 10 Judges and legal staff reduce any of these "chronic" expensive (\$195,000 per person per year) individuals? Larry also asks some common-sense questions about the fire department.

Council women Pam Purinton asks If we have about 153 policeman and 159 allocated. More money will not solve the hiring issue. There are major issues within the fire department, throwing money at it will not solve it.

A no vote will press for better organization.

Issue #3 Marijuana Dispensaries in Billings: VOTE NO. [See SafeMontana.com](http://SafeMontana.com) for info. This relates to having stores inside the city limits to sell recreational marijuana. Pot is an evil, destructive drug that destroys people's minds. Anyone who tells you it is not a "gate way drug" is either uniformed or lying. It causes permanent damage. Police Chief St John says if it will increase crime, DUI's and traffic accidents just like it has in Denver, Seattle and Portland. The Bullock administration put it on the ballot making it sound like an innocent way to fund education etc. Montana sold its soul for a mess of potage on this one.

Local Option Sales Tax: VOTE NO. This is a trojan horse that will lead to taxes on other things. I highly encourage you to read this one-page document from Representative Bill Mercer – [Local Option Sales Taxes and Their Dangers](#).

Mercer says "voters would rue the day they approved this version of a local option sales tax because it will provide further support for the concept even though it is limited to marijuana users... the precedent will increase the odds that local option taxes will gain acceptance and lead the Legislature to extend broad authority for local governments to enact general local option sales taxes... There's another reason to oppose it. It's bad tax policy. It allows local government to single out a very narrow class for taxation... Taxes that have popular support because most people do not pay them may seem good when you are not the one paying them.

This is being sold as a benefit to Billings. Ask yourself this, if they can tax recreational marijuana, what is next?

A Closer Look at Candidates:

Ward 1: Conservative small government vs. larger government Globalist Agenda 21

Stephanie Krueger – Consistent, solid conservative. Supports healthy business climate. Retired Major - MT National Guard. Business owner. Lower taxes. Married 20 - years two children. Against more parks until we can handle what we have. **Why did the Association of Realtors** endorse Gulick? Because a small minority of this group is radically Progressive. Against more parks until we can handle what we have. Pro-Life, person of faith. Solidly **Against an NDO**. Stephaniekruegerfmt@gmail.com 406-861-7657 [Web Page 1](#)

Ed Gulick – Radical Progressive. **Is Ed against ownership** of single-family dwellings? **Green new deal** architect. Globalist-Agenda 21 advocate. Program Manager for the Green Resource Center in Berkley, CA before he came to Billings. Favors big government and higher taxes. Advocate for **Sustainable Development** – does he believe you should be allowed to your own home? Business owner. For an NDO. edbillings@gmail.com 406-698-2747

Ward 2: Huge differences - require discernment and careful listening. Flowery vs. Reality Choice

Frank Ewalt – Incumbent, consummate **Straight shooter**. Solid, consistent, no-nonsense conservative, lower taxes, smaller government footprint. Frank is kind of a Sargent Friday guy – just the facts Mam. He does his homework and the math and there are no flowers. He opposes a Public Safety Levy and a Convention Center, but will show you the math. His financial support comes from Montana, not out of state. **Against an NDO.** 1tiewired@gmail.com 406-861-8964

Jennifer Owen – A moving target, **trust and consistency are significant questions**. On many issues, she is inconsistent or ambiguous. Much of her **financial support** is coming from out of state sources. This raises questions about who is supporting her and why? Several years ago, Jennifer was **Chair** of the Yellowstone County Republican Committee. Several of those who served **with have serious trust issues with her**. There are questions about how she left that committee. They will tell you she was controlling, did not delegate – **made most of the decisions**. Jennifer is a **likable** person and has many loyal friends. She is very **articulate and appears to use her smoothness** to persuade rather than dealing clearly on facts and issues. **At the Chamber sponsored debate** in a lightning round where candidates could either say for or against, she indicated she **was against an NDO**. However, in her closing remarks she **emphasized diversity, diversity, and more diversity**. That is “**Progressive Speak**” for support for all things LGBTQ. This appears to be vintage Jennifer – use **conservative speak** to get the conservative vote and **Progressive speak** to get the liberal vote. Formerly, she worked as a leader for Head Start an [expensive, liberal government failure](#). owenforbillingsward2@gmail.com 406-272-5129.

Ward 3: Clear Choice - Marxist activist vs. Free market Businessman.

Charlie Loveridge – It is **impossible to overstate the contrasts** here. Consistent **conservative**, **Charlie** is your thorough-going citizen all over Billings. Denise lives in her own little Socialist world. Charlie is a **business owner** employs 43 people. Long time Billings community leader. **Family man**. Charlie is a proven leader in Billings. Pro-life, person of faith. **Against an NDO**. Charlie4billings@gmail.com. 406-670-3796

Denise Joy – **Incumbent**. Member **Democratic Socialist of America** - Marxist organization. Tax and spend advocate. Teacher's assistant. In a **cohabiting** relationship with the other Ward 3 Councilman. **For an NDO** and all things LGBTQ. It is stunning to think that Ward 3 ever elected this lady. She would fit in quietly with the *D.C. Squad* of Socialists. denise@denisejoyforbillings.com 406-647-0337.

Ward 4: Clear choice conservative against two liberals.

Daniel Tidswell – Consistent **conservative**. Business executive with GM. He is used to dealing with large budgets and making hard decisions. He is infinitely more representative of Billings values than his opponents who are liberal to activists Progressives. He is for smaller government, lower taxes. He has **many friends in the police** department, but realizes we have some serious issues to fix before we throw a bandage at the Public Safety issues. **Family man**. Endorsed by [Montanans for Limited Government](#). Dan and his family have been engaged in Billings life for years. Pro-Life, person of faith. **Against an NDO**. danforbillings@gmail.com 406-839-5232

Tim Warburton – Progressive liberal. All about more money for parks. Unconcise messaging about diversity. Big government. Higher taxes. **For an NDO**. Timwarburton406@gmail.com 406-861-3202

Mary Hernandez – Long time **Progressive activist** at the state and national level. She has been on many boards that push Progressive ideology. On the **ACLU boards** of directors at the national and the local level, a founder of the pornographic Venture Theater. Rocky Mountain College *Institute for Peace* studies director. RiverStone Health Foundation board of directors. **When Mary speaks**, you hear the voice of a seasoned Progressive who **knows more** than you do. **For an NDO**. Maryhernandez.08@gmail.com 406-998-4229

Ward 5: Problematic choice – seeming conservative vs. big spending liberal.

Fred Wilburn – running as a conservative with mixed reviews. Some believe he is a true conservative, others – not so much. Fred needs to step away from friends that are *fronting* for him and speak for himself. **Stay tuned, we may learn more.**
frederickjwilburn@gmail.com 406-281-2636 **Against and NDO.**

Tom Rupsis – **One thing for sure**, a vote for Tom is a vote for higher taxes and parks, parks and more parks. Very liberal progressive. Is he a **straight shooter**? **Claims to be undecided on an NDO. This plays to both** the conservative and liberal vote. **Either way, if you have not figured out** what you believe about an NDO and all the junk that goes with one, you have no business on the council.
tom@tomrupsis.com 406-545-0701

Dennis Ulvestad – liberal, has run many times, not physically fit for the job

Why Support Dr. Albert Olszewski for Western District Congressman?

A clear choice between Ryan Zinke, and *establishment* moderate and a consistent conservative.

Albert will be running in Western Montana. The way to help him win in more liberal country is for those in the East to [help finance his campaign.](#)

Ryan Zinke has traveled the world and has now **moved back to Montana from California** to run for congress. He has clearly said that if he is benefited by **running against Congressman Rosendale** in the primary, he will.

I am supporting Al because, like Congressman Matt Rosendale, he will join the [House Freedom Caucus](#). Albert has stayed in our home on numerous occasions - we have had the hard discussions. This guy is extremally well informed, committed Christian, and one who respects people regardless of their perspectives.

If you go to Dr. [O's web site](#), you will see he has:

- ✚ He has the highest conservative voting record ratings in the Western Montana Congressional Race.
- ✚ A life time rating from the Montana Family Foundation - 100%.
- ✚ United Property Owners life time rating – 99%

- ✚ NRA life time rating – A
- ✚ American Conservative Union (ACU) life time rating – 88%
- ✚ Leadership training – Major in the Air Force, 13 years.
- ✚ Built a large orthopedic clinic in Kalispell.

Ryan Zinke's ACU lifetime conservative record is only 69%. But, it gets worse...**while serving in the Montana legislature, Ryan voted with liberal democrats more than any other Republican.** Ryan's rating makes him the **most liberal Republican Montana has sent to DC in over 50 years!**