

Candidate Statement

ZEV CYWAN DISCUSSES WHY HE IS A CANDIDATE FOR ORO VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL

“When elected, I will hold myself accountable to one and ONLY one special interest group: We The People.”

A little over four years ago, my wife and I decided that Oro Valley was the place for us to spend our retirement years. After a short stint of self-indulgence, an issue arose that peaked my interest and off to my first Council meeting I went. It was from that issue that I found myself getting involved in the processes relative to it. I was aghast at how this issue was handled by Town but, not only did I become involved in said issue, I also observed that, for me, governance here seemed not to be for the people. The council was controlling, dismissive, and also appeared to be in the hands of a few.

Over these past few years, I have attended my share of Council meetings, have indulged in research, have addressed Council, have been involved in the replacement of a couple of former Council members, and have expressed many viewpoints and concerns on the LOVE Blog. In addition, over the past few years I have been asked by several if I would consider running for a position on Council and my response was generally “No” or “I’ll think about it. This Wednesday past, after having witnessed one of the most egregious sessions relative to the workings of Town (the resignation of respected town manager David Andrews), I decided that it was imperative that four members of Council had to go; thus is my decision that I could make a difference.

I am adamant that governments, federal, state, county, or local, must adhere to the tenet of being “of the people, by the people, and for the people”, and the retention of this creed MUST begin at home. If government is allowed to fall into the hands of unchecked power then we, the people, will no longer be able to delight in our freedoms.

When elected, I will hold myself accountable to one and ONLY one special interest group: We The People. PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

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When elected, I will advocate for strict observance of all statutes-federal, state, and local-that govern the way we must do business. PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

When elected, I will try to find ways in which the COMMUNITY can expand their involvements in the interests of Town. PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

When elected, I will steadfastly observe the necessities of fiscal responsibility. PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

When elected, I will adhere strictly to the principles of governmental transparency. PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

When elected, I will respect and consider ALL opinions offered by interested parties whether or not I might agree or disagree: PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

When elected, I will respect the delicate attributes that nature itself has endowed upon Oro Valley: PAST COUNCILS HAVE FAILED IN THE EXECUTION OF THIS OBLIGATION.

Some time ago I stood before Council and spoke the following: "Mr. Mayor, Council, and Staff : We elected or hired you to be caretakers of our very special Town, we did not designate that you become a body of dictatorial philosopher kings. We elected you to enforce our rules, our regulations, and our laws. We did not elect you to muddy them or make new ones by sidestepping the governing dictates, not only of our own Constitution but that of our State Constitution as well. We elected you to help coordinate and inform our citizenry in order to maintain the Spirit of Oro Valley, not to play hide and seek and therefore trample on it's very heart. There are many of us who implore you to listen carefully and then act; not act and then pretend to listen."

LET'S TAKE OUR TOWN BACK AND RE-ESTABLISH OUR PRINCIPLES AND OUR DIGNITY!"