

Name: Paxton Cavin

What is your professional experience?

For the past three years, I have taught elementary art with Oklahoma City Public Schools. My experience has primarily been at Martin Luther King Elementary where I have had the opportunity to teach approximately 450 students each year. In addition to teaching my wonderful students, my duties include creating lesson plans, managing a yearly budget, ordering supplies, and working with a team to make decisions for our school. In a time of budget cuts, I have been able to successfully fundraise for my classroom supplies and to provide my students with countless opportunities to showcase their artwork in the metro area.

Tell us about your education if you would like to?

Earning my Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Oklahoma State University was a rewarding experience. Apart from the education I received, I was able to participate in various opportunities that allowed me to use my skills as an artist to enhance the community.

Tell us about your family if you would like to.

I am incredibly blessed to be married to my best friend and Luther native, C.J. Cavin. Our daughter Olivia was born in December 2016.

Tell us about your hobbies if you would like to.

As an artist, I spend a lot of my free time creating art, specifically painting, and since purchasing our dream house in Luther my husband and I have enjoyed renovating and doing projects to improve our home. However, spending time with my husband and new baby girl is definitely my favorite way to spend my time.

Do you have previous experience serving the Town of Luther? (If so, what was your service, and when?)

In 2015 my husband and I were approached to create a new town website. It was our goal to make a site that showcased all that Luther has to offer on a modern and easy-to-use platform. Taking pictures, adding content, making an event calendar, and providing a place for town updates are just a small portion of what we added to the website. After the initial creation and few months of doing the updates we were able to train the Town Hall staff to manage the website.

What is your reason(s) for running for Town Trustee?

It is my belief that the town of Luther is in desperate need of positive change, innovative ideas, and a commitment to uphold the rules and laws that pertain to local government. I have made my home in Luther and want to help create a place that my family can enjoy for years to come.

Describe any of your community (volunteer, church, school) service.

- Various ministries at First Baptist Church Luther
- After School Art Club Advisor at Martin Luther King Elementary, OKCPS
- Member of Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition

What are your top issues concerning the Town of Luther?

Transparency

I know that it is the job of the Board of Trustees to serve the community. I know that for the board to be effective they must be trusted.

Transparency is key in earning the trust of the citizens of Luther. By adhering to the rules of open meetings and open records, I will insist that what happens on the board is legal and visible to those who elected me to serve.

Accountability

I know that it is the responsibility for the Board of Trustees to take care of the community. I know that for the board to be able to do this, they must be responsible.

Accountability is crucial for the board to operate correctly. Through better management of money, an open budgeting process, and the introduction of need-based budgeting, I am determined to make sure that the town operates in a responsible way.

Vision

I know that it is the privilege of the Board of Trustees to bring growth and opportunities to the community. I know that for the board to be successful they must be creative.

Vision is the cornerstone of making Luther great again. By continuing the success of the downtown revitalization and making Luther a must stop destination for tourists and potential residents, I am excited to bring new ideas and change to the community.

What do you envision for Luther in five years?

What do you envision for Luther in ten years?

I have combined my answer to these two questions due to the fact that my goals are directly related to the responses to the 2015 town survey generated by the Town Board. Because of the dire need of change and improvement in the town, as expressed by the citizens of Luther, I feel as though it will take 5-10 years to make positive changes that last. Below are the goals that I have for Luther and will start working toward once elected:

- Continued revitalization of downtown Luther
 - o Maintaining current business base
 - o Bringing in new businesses
 - o Changing the zoning of downtown property when it becomes available
- Town water issues resolved or being resolved
 - o Replacing and repairing town water lines
 - o Addressing issues with the water tower
 - o Making sure that the tap water is safe and worth drinking
- Various town beautification projects
 - o Cleaning up trash and clutter around town
 - o Creating community artwork
 - o Disposing of dilapidated houses
 - o Implementing a recycling program
- Easily accessible town records and updated ordinances
- Town Finances
 - o Maintaining a yearly budget
 - o Building up Rainy Day Fund

- o Meeting deadlines to receive county, state, and federal funding
- o Applying for grants to better the community

What are your plans for becoming familiar with the issues associated with the job of Trustee?

- Familiarizing myself with the town ordinances
- Becoming proficient in the rules surrounding the Open Meetings Act
- Discussing problems/solutions with community members
- Attending the statutorily required trainings provided by the Oklahoma Municipal League

What are your plans for campaigning?

- Talking to voters at local establishments and through phone calls
- Facebook page
- Website: www.paxtoncavin.com
- Campaign signs
- Participating in election related events
- Being available for citizens to ask questions and propose ideas

How can citizens contact you with questions or ideas about our Town?

- Email: pmc@paxtoncavin.com
- Facebook Page
- Website Contact Form
- Phone: (405) 385-4899

Are you willing to participate in a candidate forum sponsored by *The Luther Register*?

Absolutely!

Will you sign the Open Government Pledge, an effort sponsored by the organization, FOI Oklahoma?

As a candidate for the Luther Town Board of Trustees, I, Paxton Cavin, endorse the purpose of Oklahoma's Open Meeting and Open Records laws to ensure and facilitate the public's understanding of governmental processes and problems. Therefore, I pledge to support at every opportunity the public policy of the State of Oklahoma that the people are vested with the inherent right to know and be fully informed about their government so that they can efficiently and intelligently exercise their inherent political power. Specifically, I pledge that I and the public bodies that I am elected to govern will comply with not only the letter but also the spirit of Oklahoma's Open Meeting and Open Records laws.

Signature:

Do you have any other comments to share?

Please include a picture or yourself as a jpeg file. Or if you would like *The Luther Register* to take one, please contact us at dawnshelton@lutherregister.news or 405-888-9946, and we are happy to meet you.

Please returns your answers via email to dawnshelton@lutherregister.news; or make another arrangement to pick up by calling 405-888-9946.

DEADLINE: Friday, February 17 email: dawnshelton@lutherregister.news mail: Dawn Shelton, PO Box 311, Luther, OK 73054 phone to make arrangements for pickup: 405-888-9946