



Candidate forums later this month

Posted: October 2, 2017 5:06 p.m.

By BRYAN CLARK

bclark@postregister.com

The League of Women Voters will hold a series of forums later this month where candidates for three contested Idaho Falls City Council seats will face off.

The forums, which have long served as the main debate stage for local candidates, have been organized by Carolyn Abbott of the League. Each of the forums will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Idaho Falls Senior Citizens Community Center, 535 W. 21st St.

The questions put to the candidates will be submitted by members of the audience and read by moderators.

The first forum, between seat 6 candidates Jim Freeman and Daniel Beck, will be held Oct. 17. It will be moderated by Post Register reporter Bryan Clark.

The second forum, between seat 4 candidates Jim Francis and Craig Lords, will be held Oct. 20. Channel 8 news anchor Karole Honas will moderate.

The final forum, between incumbent seat 2 Councilman David Smith and challenger Shelly Smede, will be held Oct. 24. Post Register community page editor Katie Stokes will moderate.

In each of the forums, the candidates will be given two minutes for introductory remarks. Then a series of questions will be put to each candidate, with a time limit of one minute per response. Moderators will be allowed to grant one-minute extensions to the responses.

A mayoral debate will be hosted by the Idaho Falls City Club on Oct. 19, also using audience-submitted questions and moderated by Honas. Incumbent Mayor Rebecca Casper and her challengers, Councilwoman Barbara Ehardt, state Rep. Jeff Thompson, Ronald Jorde and Kenly Osterhout have been invited to participate.

The mayoral debate will be held at the University Place auditorium from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Reporter Bryan Clark can be reached at 208-542-6751.