



Mount Vernon

An Innovative Community; Authentically Hometown

James Mahan Appointed Council Person for First Ward

Will fulfill seat vacated by Josh Kirby, who resigned for health reasons



James Mahan, left, shakes hands with Mayor Matt Starr after being sworn in as a Mount Vernon City Council Person representing the First Ward, Monday, Nov. 7, 2022, in Council Chambers, City Hall.

MOUNT VERNON, November 10, 2022 – James Mahan has been appointed to represent the First Ward on the Mount Vernon City Council. He will fulfill the unexpired term of Josh Kirby, who resigned Oct. 20, 2022 for health reasons, after beginning his time on Council on Jan. 1, 2022. The term expires on Dec. 31, 2023.

On Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, the designated members of the Knox County Republican Central Committee met and voted unanimously to appoint Mahan to fill the vacancy. He will assume the committee responsibilities of Kirby – chair of the Fire, Police, Civil Defense Committee, second on the Finance Committee, in addition to being a member of the Utilities and Employee and Community Relations committees.

“I was sorry to hear about the resignation of Josh Kirby due to health reasons. I join his friends on Council in prayers for his family,” said Mahan (pronounced MAY-han), who goes by Jay.

Mahan made Mount Vernon his home after enrolling at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. He graduated in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in history, and earned a master's degree in management from the university in 2005.

His wife, Kerri, has taught at Mount Vernon City Schools for more than 25 years, and his children graduated from Knox County Career Center, Mount Vernon High School and MVNU, where he currently serves as the assistant registrar for graduate and professional studies.

Mahan is also a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and the Ohio Army National Guard.

"Mount Vernon has been so good to us. I wasn't born here but this is home and where we raised our boys," said Mahan. "I look forward to representing the First Ward, and working with the Council and administration, in these exciting times."

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ABOUT THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON:

The City of Mount Vernon is an innovative community with an authentic hometown feel. The City is dedicated to providing modern services with an emphasis on continual improvement, customer service and equitable laws that support our citizens and visitors, while retaining and attracting investors in our community. Home to 17,000 people, Mount Vernon is the county seat for Knox County and boasts historic buildings and districts as well as business and professional, educational and recreational opportunities through many adaptive reuses of the community's infrastructure and spaces. The City has strong ties to higher education, with Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kenyon College and Central Ohio Technical College operating satellite locations in the historic downtown. Located 40 miles northeast of Columbus, Mount Vernon is near the geographic center of Ohio and has connections all over the globe.

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