

The Oregonian

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales withdraws re-election bid

By Andrew Theen

October 26, 2015

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales announced Monday that he won't run for a second term in 2016 after all.

The decision marked a stunning turnabout for the mayor, who announced a re-election bid in March and who seemed to be working to rack up accomplishments since state Treasurer Ted Wheeler joined the race Sept. 9.

"I had no doubt that I could win that campaign," Hales, 59, said in an interview in his third-floor office at City Hall. "This isn't a political calculation that I'm in big trouble. I think the race is wide open, and I think I would win if I poured myself into campaigning."

Instead, Hales said he'll focus on issues during the 14 months left in his term, including long-term planning, curbing gang violence and lobbying the 2016 Legislature to lift a ban on a type of zoning that encourages affordable housing.

"Trying to keep housing affordable in a city this size in a real estate market this hot, that's a huge challenge," Hales said. "These are big deal issues and I just relish the opportunity to work on them and not have to think about campaigning."

For now, Hales' decision clears the field for Wheeler, who was the Multnomah County chairman before being elected treasurer. Commissioner Nick Fish and House Speaker Tina Kotek, among names floated for the race before, both told The Oregonian/OregonLive on Monday they had no plans to run.

No one else stepped forward, but Wheeler expects competition. "I don't see my game plan changing as a result of the mayor's withdrawal," he said in an interview with The Oregonian/OregonLive. "I assume that there will be others in the race."

The race is nonpartisan, so a candidate can win election as early as May 17 if he or she gets at least 50 percent of the vote. Otherwise, the top two finishers will advance to a runoff in the November 2016 general election.

Hales told The Oregonian/OregonLive just over a month ago, after Wheeler jumped in the race, that he was "ready to rumble."

He unveiled policy initiatives in recent weeks, including declaring a housing emergency and proposing a tax on home demolitions, and he started cycling to work most Mondays, stopping at coffee shops to meet with voters.

But Wheeler lined up prominent endorsements, including from former Portland Mayors Vera Katz, Tom Potter and Sam Adams.

Fundraising was also an issue. Hales has raised more than \$142,000 in cash this year -- about \$50,000 less than he had at this time four years ago. He also raised the 2011 amount in far less time.

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales Not Running For Second Term Portland Mayor Charlie Hales is not running for a second term.

Hales secured just \$250 in August, as talk of a Wheeler run heated up, and less than \$35,000 since. Wheeler has raised nearly three times that amount, about \$104,000, in that time.

Hales also angered some in the business community last spring by withdrawing support for a controversial Pembina propane export facility at the Port of Portland.

Hales timeline

1979: Hales moves to Portland after graduating from University of Virginia.

1992: Hales ousts incumbent Dick Bogle to join the Portland City Council.

2002: Hales quits the City Council in the middle of his third term. A special election is held to replace him, costing taxpayers \$127,867.

2012: Hales and then-state Rep. Jefferson Smith emerge as the top two mayoral candidates in the May primary, advancing to a runoff election in November.

July-October 2012: Damaging news reports derail Smith's campaign for mayor, tipping the race in Hales' favor.

Nov. 6, 2012: Hales soundly defeats Smith to become Portland's 52nd mayor.

March 6, 2015: Hales announces he's running for re-election

Sept. 9, 2015: Oregon Treasurer Ted Wheeler announces he'll challenge Hales.

Sept. 24, 2015: Hales says he wants to declare a housing emergency with the hope of providing shelter for all homeless women by year's end.

Oct. 14, 2015: Three former Portland mayors — Vera Katz, Tom Potter and Sam Adams — endorse Wheeler.

Oct. 26, 2015: Hales drops his re-election bid.

Still, recent non-campaign polling indicated the race remained a dead heat. No incumbent member of the City Council has lost a re-election bid since 1992.

Hales said endorsements and early polling had no bearing on his decision, noting that he trailed in early polls during his first City Council race in 1992 but went on to oust incumbent Dick Bogle. Hales said he did not tell Wheeler he was dropping his bid.

Hales said he made the difficult decision to withdraw after several weeks of discussing the possibility with his wife, Nancy: "Do I pour myself into campaigning, or do I pour myself into the work of this city, a lot of which is at a very fragile point right now?"

They debated the topic during a weekend trip this month to Ashland, he said: "We talked about this the whole way down, the whole way back and most of the time we were there."

Hales told his staff and some top administrators his decision Monday morning.

"He sounded good," said Dante James, director of the Office of Equity and Human Rights. "He sounded upbeat. He sounded excited, actually."

Deanna Wesson-Mitchell, Hales' public safety adviser and Portland Police Bureau liaison, said the staff is ready to go to work.

"We're all lighter," she said. "We have the mayor's time back. We have his energy. I'm looking forward to the next 14 months."

Hales made the rounds of most City Council offices just after noon, walking downstairs with his chief of staff, Josh Alpert, to visit with Commissioner Dan Saltzman. He dropped by the offices of Commissioners Steve Novick and Amanda Fritz, neither of whom were in at the time.

But by 1 p.m., he had met with each member of City Council, including Commissioner Nick Fish.

Hales said he would now devote more of his time and energy to the city's comprehensive plan, the 20-year road map that sketches Portland growth. Portland is expected to add 200,000 residents during the next two decades. Hales said there is "no one better" suited to work on the plan.

"I'm here and I can do that work, and doing that work without the distraction of running for another term of office means I have no lack of focus," he said.

Hales said he decided to pull out of the race while there's time for other candidates to enter.

Hales is the third consecutive Portland mayor to opt out of seeking a second term. Adams, who was shadowed by a sex scandal over his term, announced in July 2011 that he wouldn't seek re-election. Potter announced in September 2007 that he wouldn't run again.

Hales said Monday that he won't be finished working when his term ends.

"I will consider all kinds of opportunities but have nothing lined up," he said. "I'm not retiring. I'm here for 14 more months. That's two legislative sessions."

Charlie Hales' decision surprises City Council

*By Brad Schmidt
October 26, 2015*

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales' sudden announcement Monday that he is ending his re-election campaign was met with a mixture of surprise and admiration inside City Hall.

Hales was described as being serene and upbeat when he met individually with city commissioners between noon and 1 p.m. to share his decision.

Hales said he decided to drop out after determining that it would be too difficult to govern and campaign against high-profile challenger Ted Wheeler, Oregon's treasurer. Former Mayor Sam Adams reached the same decision in 2011, when Hales lined up to challenge Adams.

Members of the City Council on Monday said Hales' decision should help clear the way for a 14-month run of productivity, without efforts judged by outsiders through a political lens. Among the big challenges: remaking the city's zoning code and long-range growth plan, creating more affordable housing, and paving more city roads.

"It's been done very graciously and with a lot of thought," Commissioner Amanda Fritz said of Hales' decision. "He's really looking out for the good of Portland."

Commissioner Nick Fish said he was "as surprised as anyone" about Hales' decision but hoped it would help the City Council focus on core efforts, such as increasing money for affordable housing.

"Having a full-time mayor who doesn't also have to deal with a campaign potentially is a very good thing for the city," Fish said. "It's extremely challenging to do both."

Commissioner Steve Novick, who planned to support Hales' re-election bid, said he was saddened by Hales' choice.

Hales and Novick, working together, tried and failed last year to line up more money for roads. Novick said he doesn't know how Hales' decision might affect voters' response to a gas tax set for the May 2016 ballot.

Fish, Fritz and Novick each said they would not run for mayor in 2016. Commissioner Dan Saltzman wasn't immediately available for comment.

"He has a fine life outside of politics," Novick said of Hales. "He likes his boat. He loves his wife. He told me four year ago that he had been thinking about taking a year off on his boat."

Hales didn't mention any sailing excursion Monday.

"No, he didn't," Novick said. "Not yet."

Portland police lieutenants get wage increases, premium pay for city residency under proposed contract

By Maxine Bernstein

October 27, 2015

Portland police lieutenants would receive wage increases and extra pay for obtaining college or graduate degrees and for living within the city limits under a negotiated contract agreement.

The city also would no longer have to give 48-hours notice to lieutenants before they're interviewed as part of an internal investigation.

The proposal goes before the Portland City Council on Wednesday morning.

The Portland Police Commanding Officers Association's negotiated a three-year contract for July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018. It would offer lieutenants a 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective upon approval, as well as 2 percent premium pay for lieutenants who have obtained a bachelor's degree, and 3 percent premium pay for lieutenants with a master's degree or doctorate.

In the contract's second year, lieutenants would receive a 2 percent wage increase in addition to cost-of-living increases.

In year three, lieutenants would receive another cost-of-living wage increase, and those who live within Portland's city limits would receive 5 percent premium pay.

There are 31 authorized lieutenant positions in the Police Bureau covered by the commanding officers union.

The three-year contract is estimated to cost about \$882,000, according to the city's estimate. Lieutenant's base pay would increase from \$104,748 to \$108,534.

The union no longer includes captains or commanders, following a challenge by the mayor's office to the state Employment Relations Board. In an April 2014 ruling, the three-member state board excluded Portland police captains and commanders who serve as division managers from union membership.

The board found that Portland police commanders and captains who oversee a police division or precinct meet the state's definition of supervisory employees since they can hire non-sworn employees, assign and direct officers to different assignments within their units and use independent judgment in their jobs. Supervisory employees cannot be represented by a union under state law governing public employees.

Portland's City Council is set to consider the proposed contract at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday in City Hall's council chambers.

Willamette Week

Mayor Charlie Hales Abandons Bid for Re-election

*By Beth Slovic
October 26, 2015*

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales is dropping his bid for re-election.

Hales' unexpected decision to abandon a re-election campaign for 2016 opens a clear path to City Hall for Oregon Treasurer Ted Wheeler, who announced in September he would challenge Hales.

Hales never formally filed paperwork to run for a second term, but told media since the spring that he was running. "As you know," Hales wrote in a Sept. 18 email to WW, "I have not yet filed for re-election, although I will later in the fall."

Hales announced his plan in a press release Monday afternoon after WW published its story, saying he couldn't run for re-election and govern the city simultaneously.

"I cannot do both of these tasks faithfully and well," he wrote in the statement.

Yet Hales was burdened by a number of problems that would have dragged down his campaign.

"This is a bad time to be an incumbent—for anybody," says Len Bergstein, a veteran campaign consultant. "And it's been a really bumping road for this particular incumbent."

Hales' chief political consultant, Mark Wiener, took a job as a lobbyist for ride-sharing giant Uber in December 2014 and then aided in Uber's loosening of city rules so it could operate legally in Portland. Wheeler pointed to the setup at his campaign announcement and accused Hales of fostering backroom deals.

Hales' ties to real-estate developers also hurt him.

For example, WW recently raised questions about undisclosed gifts to Nancy Hales' program at Portland State University. The mayor's wife runs an organization that brings visiting delegations to Portland to study the city's urban infrastructure. Financial supporters of Nancy Hales' First Stop Portland include some of the mayor's biggest campaign contributors in real-estate development, further fueling public perception that Hales was beholden to real-estate interests at a time when Portland's rents are rising sharply and many voters are fed up with the city's growth.

Fundraising, it seems, wasn't one of Hales' problems. At least not yet.

Hales has reported raising \$143,000 in 2015, according to state records. That includes contributions made as recently as Oct. 21.

Wheeler, having announced his bid only last month, has reported raising \$106,000.

On Oct. 16, Wheeler scored a campaign coup, announcing that former mayors Vera Katz, Tom Potter and Sam Adams were all endorsing Wheeler. The news surprised many because Katz endorsed Hales in 2012 and Wheeler sparred with Adams when Wheeler was chairman of Multnomah County. In 2009, Wheeler announced he supported the petition campaign seeking Adams' recall in the wake of the Beau Breedlove scandal.

Hales' exit follows a path similar to Adams', who announced in 2011 that he wouldn't run again because of the dual demands of campaigning and running the city. He also factored in a poll that showed he'd face a tough race. "I have fire in the belly [to run again]," Adams told WW. "But the tradeoff is, I wouldn't devote the necessary time and attention to being mayor."

Hales doesn't appear content to let Wheeler walk into office.

"The filing deadline is still over four months away, and I hope and expect that several qualified candidates will seek the office of mayor," he wrote in his Monday announcement. "There are some dynamic new leaders in our community, and I'm excited to see who steps up."

The Portland Mercury

Mayor Charlie Hales Won't Seek A Second Term

By Dirk VanderHart

October 26, 2015

Mayor Charlie Hales is calling it at one term.

In a stunning reversal, and in the face of difficult poll numbers and a strong challenger, Hales revealed earlier today he won't run for re-election next year. In a statement laying out a litany of problems facing the city, Hales says his time's better spent at work than squaring off with State Treasurer Ted Wheeler and whoever else pops into the race.

"When confronted with a choice between giving my full effort to the job of being mayor and spending that energy on a long and consuming re-election campaign, it's an easy choice," Hales writes. "Therefore, I have decided not to file for re-election."

Of course, public opinion polling likely weighed in on that decision. Wheeler's campaign has circulated poll results suggesting he's got a legitimate shot of unseating the mayor. Wheeler also unveiled a trio of supporters earlier this month that boded poorly for Hales: The city's past three mayors. Obviously, Wheeler's likely got an easier path with today's decision.

Update, 4:09 pm A chipper Hales, meeting with a steady stream of media this afternoon, says he thinks he can win a re-election race—he just doesn't want to neglect his duties to do so.

"The assumption that I could just do a campaign in my spare time has become absurd," Hales tells the Mercury. "I know how to campaign—I've done it nine times. If I poured myself into this one I could win it. I would win it. But that would be at the expense of devoting myself to these issues that I ran to work on."

Hales has had an especially active several weeks—setting the city down a path toward declaring a housing emergency, floating a controversial demolition tax aimed at slowing Portland's hyper-speed changes, and saying he'd support voluntarily recognizing some of the city's lowest-paid workers as union members.

Today he highlighted the city's growth, the housing crisis, and the rising tide of gun violence as issues that need urgent attention.

Hales also is using his decision to talk about a "generational change" he thinks is possible in city hall. He wouldn't unveil who he'd like to see run for his seat, but suggested he'd like a fresh face.

"I hope and expect that this will open the door to some new leadership in this city," Hales said. "There are some of us you might fairly categorize as status quo. I think this could be an opportunity for that to start to change."

Original post:

City Commissioner Nick Fish says Hales stopped by his office earlier this afternoon, unannounced, to explain his decision not to run. The mayor told Fish many of the same things he wrote in his official announcement.

"He said he had spent the weekend talking to his wife about the campaign and about their plans," Fish says. "They had decided that to be a full-time mayor and full-time candidate was a big reach and that he was going to discontinue his campaign. He seemed very confident in his decision."

For Fish, who's one of the foremost advocates for housing issues on City Council, the announcement was abrupt, but welcome in its way, he says. "I told him that we had a lot of momentum in addressing the housing crisis and, somewhat selfishly, I was pleased with him having more bandwidth."

Today's announcement makes Hales the third straight Portland mayor to decide against asking voters to re-hire them after one term, after former mayors Tom Potter and Sam Adams declined to run again (Potter didn't particularly like the job, and Adams was beset by scandal).

Wheeler, in a statement, greeted the news of Hales' decision relatively sedately. The mayor's sudden departure from the race means Wheeler's camp will have to pivot from a course of criticizing Hales on the issues, and begin bringing its own policy proposals to the table.

"Mayor Hales said today that he wants to continue to focus on the issues that matter to the people of Portland," Wheeler said in the statement. "That's what I'm going to do, too. This race is not about the personalities involved. It is about finding solutions for the real issues facing our city - like homelessness, fixing our roads, finding long-term affordable housing solutions and creating good, family-sustaining jobs."

Here's a statement Hales released earlier today. We'll be updating.

Dear Friends:

Last spring, I let it be known that I was planning to seek another term as Portland's Mayor. I'm very proud of what we have accomplished in less than three years. There is now tremendous momentum in this work:

- We and our partners are taking historic action on homelessness and affordable housing – and backing it up with funding and the declaration of a housing emergency.*
- We have seen strong results on police reform, significantly reducing the use of force, improving the ability to de-escalate a crisis, and repairing the relationship between police and the community.*
- We have become national and international leaders on local action for climate change.*
- We are making Portland more equitable, including raising the minimum wage for city workers and contractors, and more prosperous, creating new jobs and investment.*
- At the same time, we righted city government's severely listing financial ship, erasing a record budget gap and making important new investments in transportation and our kids.*

Making this kind of progress for Portland is why I ran for mayor.

While I have been doing the work you elected me to do, I have also begun preparing to formally launch a re-election campaign. In the process, one thing has become crystal clear to me. I cannot do both of these tasks faithfully and well.

I ran for office to do something, not to be something. For me, serving the city we love has never been a political stepping stone. Our city and the work are the motivation, and now, in addition to the initiatives I mentioned, there are other big challenges that need my full attention:

- The pressures of growth are upon us, and more is ahead. Over the next twelve months, we will draw the map for Portland's next twenty years...and our next 200,000 neighbors.*
- I am heartsick about the nightly toll of gang violence in our city. It doesn't necessarily show up in political polls or even get full media attention, but it keeps me up at night. Over 850 shots have been fired in over 158 gang violence incidents this year, resulting in ten deaths and 45 people injured. This community crisis deserves everything I have.*

So when confronted with a choice between giving my full effort to the job of being mayor and spending that energy on a long and consuming re-election campaign, it's an easy choice. Therefore, I have decided not to file for re-election.

The filing deadline is still over four months away, and I hope and expect that several qualified candidates will seek the office of Mayor. There are some dynamic new leaders in our community, and I'm excited to see who steps up.

I thank you for your support and encouragement. Together, we have made great progress, and over the next 14 months, we will make more. I pledge to you that I will focus all of my time and energy on that responsibility.

Sincerely,

Charlie

Daily Journal of Commerce

Land use review intakes

By Stephen Alexander

October 27, 2015

- There is a pending application for the expansion of the Marriott hotel at 620 S.W. Washington St. A four-story addition above the existing parking garage would connect to the existing hotel and provide 127 additional rooms. The applicant is Gary Golla of SERA Architects. The owner is BPM Associates (1995) LLC.
- There is an application for the demolition of two existing residences and replacement with three attached three-story townhomes for a total living area of 8,273 square feet at 2658 N.W. Thurman St. The applicant is Mike Hubbell of Portland Development Group. The owners are Portland Development Group and Investments LLC.
- There is a pending application for a new 700-space, six-level parking garage with retail space on the first floor. The applicant is Karl Sonnenberg of ZGF Architects LLP. The owner is Kaiser Foundation Health.
- There is a pending application for a classroom replacement at Lincoln High School, at 1600 S.W. Salmon St. The applicant is Steve Effros of Portland Public Schools. The owner is School District No. 1.
- There is an application proposing a retail development with a new 13,000-square-foot shop and 1,700-square-foot drive-thru building with food or beverage use. The applicant is Gary Rommel. The owners are Rui Jun Su and John Z. Chen.
- There is a pending application for questions to the Portland Bureau of Transportation to determine scope of a traffic study for the future modernization of Grant High School at 2245 N.E. 36th Ave. The applicant is Paul Cathcart of Portland Public Schools. The owner is School District No. 1.

- There is a pending application for a proposal to renovate the storefront and building at 7911 N. Lombard St. The applicant is Shea Gilligan of Brett Schulz, architect. The owner is Philip P. Burch.
- There is an application for the replacement of most exterior signage – approximately 25 signs – at Legacy Health’s Good Samaritan campus at 1015 N.W. 22nd Ave. The applicant is Mike Hawks of Mayer/Reed. The owner is Good Samaritan Hospital.
- There is an application for a new five-story creative office building with retail and restaurant space on the ground floor at 130 N.E. Sixth Ave. The applicant is Brian Purdy of Emerick Architects. The owner is Central Eastside Partners LLC.
- There is a pending application for a new rooftop wireless communications facility with antennas concealed behind new 10-foot FRP (fiberglass-reinforced plastic) screening. Accessory equipment will be in a private, first-floor parking garage and out of public view. The applicant is Noah Grodzin of Verizon Wireless. The owner is Association of Unit Owners.

Portland Business Journal

Business leaders stunned, intrigued by Hales' reelection reversal

*By Andy Giegerich
October 27, 2015*

Ryan Deckert was caught off guard.

The Oregon Business Association president wasn't alone in joining others who were thrown by Portland Mayor Charlie Hales' announcement yesterday that he won't seek a second term.

Hales had told the Portland Tribune editorial board last spring he'd run again.

Deckert, a former Oregon State Senator who knows his way around both political and business circles said the announcement has one obvious upshot.

"I think we will see a lot of support continue to consolidate around Ted Wheeler," Deckert said of the former state Treasurer and now-presumed mayoral front-runner.

"His kickoff party had just about every faction of Portland imaginable — community groups, housing advocates, entrepreneurs — you name it."

We also checked in with Greenbrier Co.'s Jack Isselmann, a longtime Salem insider who closely tracks governmental and commercial doings.

Like many, Isselmann seems disappointed that Portland will miss out on an epic campaign. Hales is a seasoned pol who's adept at both the fundraising and face-to-face interactions needed to sustain a public office bid. Wheeler is smart and, as evidenced by his appearance at a Southeast Portland home demolition site, savvy.

"The Portland Mayor's race was shaping up to be the heavyweight bout at the top of the card of all 2016 candidate races in Oregon," Isselmann said. "The Wheeler-Hales matchup generated a

lot of energy in terms of analysis and speculation. So it is surprising that this title bout is basically over before it began."

Any immediate effect on businesses?

"Perhaps no immediate effect," Isselmann said. "As Mayor Hales notes, he is in office at City Hall for 14 more months. Presumably bureau assignments remain relatively constant throughout that time. What businesses need to watch is how the candidates who file for offices position themselves around the range of business tax increases that could join them on the ballot in 2016."

Isselmann said there's no obvious opponent for Wheeler (take our poll here if you have a suggested candidate). He does accept Hales' reasoning that the mayor is better served by governing as opposed to campaigning over the next 14 months.

"Political campaigns are getting longer and more expensive," Isselmann said. "It is not particularly surprising when an elected official chooses not spend a good chunk of 30 percent of his or her total term in office devoted to fundraising and courting votes just to remain in that office."

For his part, Wheeler, in a statement, effectively wished Hales well.

"This is a decision that only the Mayor along with his family can make, and I respect his decision," Wheeler said.

"This race is not about the personalities involved. It is about finding solutions for the real issues facing our city — like homelessness, fixing our roads, finding long-term affordable housing solutions and creating good, family-sustaining jobs. I believe that by tapping into the talents and ideas of our residents, Portland can overcome these challenges and craft the innovative, progressive solutions that will be examples to the entire nation.

GoLocalPDX

Experts React to Charlie Hales' Departure from Mayor's Race

By Brendan Murray

October 27, 2015

Sitting Portland Mayor Charlie Hales announced yesterday that he would no longer be seeking re-election, and experts told GoLocal that while the move was not expected, it does not come as a total shock.

Rebecca Tweed, Political and Communications Director of State Street Solutions, told GoLocal that Hales' decision to leave the race follows recent trends for the city's top executive.

"I am not really all that surprised, but I certainly didn't expect it," Tweed said. "If you look at recent history it's just what has been happening. We haven't had a mayor run for re-election since 200 when Vera Katz won a third term."

Difficult Balancing Act

Tweed said that she believes Hales' assertion that he dropped out of the race to focus on his current agenda, but also said that the campaign of Oregon State Treasurer Ted Wheeler (D), who has been gaining momentum in recent weeks, could have made Hales think twice about campaigning again.

"It's a difficult balancing act," Tweed said. "It's a large order to run a city with hundreds of thousands of people that live there and thousands of people that work for you. Trying to do that while running a campaign, especially while there is a strong opposition candidate like Ted Wheeler, is a really difficult thing to do."

Jim Moore, Director of the Tom McCall Center for Policy Innovation at Pacific University, told GoLocal he believes that the strength of Wheeler's campaign may be the only logical explanation for Hales' decision to withdraw.

"Hales doesn't have a scandal, he seems to have the support of the City Council, and he decides not to run. It's kind of a mystery," Moore said. "I think he probably saw some kind of polling that said Wheeler was way ahead, and this was going to be an uphill battle, or he was told by some donors that he had lost their support."

Eyes on A Bigger Prize?

Tweed downplayed the notion that Hales may be dropping his re-election campaign to focus on a new career path.

"I don't think he has eyes for another office, or to run for governor or anything like that right now," Tweed said. "I think if he does not want to run for mayor, then he probably does not want to run for anything else, either."

Moore said that while it would be immediately viewed as hypocritical for Hales to run for a position in 2016, he may have higher political aspirations in the future.

"He leaves office without scandal, being seen as fairly competent and without being voted out of office. He leaves on his own terms," Moore said. "He could certainly have political success again, whether it's on the City Council, at the county level or in the legislature. He has a bright political future if he wants it."