

CONTACT INFORMATION:
MONROE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
DAVID G. HENRY, VICE CHAIR
vicechair@monroedems.org
m: 812-727-7899

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MONROE DEMOCRATIC PARTY ANNOUNCES CAUCUS FOR COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 SEAT

Chairwoman Crossley Will Stand for the Open Seat

The Monroe County Democratic Party will hold a special caucus of eligible precinct chairpersons to fill the announced vacancy of outgoing County Councilperson Eric Spoonmore in Monroe County Council District 4. The caucus will be held in the auditorium of the Monroe County Public Library at 303 E. Kirkwood Ave. on Sunday, December 19, 2021, at 2:00 PM. Attendees of the caucus will be required to wear face masks and adhere to the social distancing guidelines. The caucus will be open to the public to view. Spoonmore, the current County Council President, will step down from his position on November 30, 2021.

“County Council-member Eric Spoonmore will leave big shoes to fill when he resigns from his position on November 30th and I am grateful for his public service,” said MCDP Chairwoman Jennifer Crossley.

Crossley, a two-term chair of the county party and resident of Monroe County Council District 4, has declared her candidacy for the open position. “After careful consideration, I have decided that I will run in the caucus to fill his position,” Chairwoman Crossley said.

The Monroe County Democratic Party has long held that a transparent and open caucus process is essential for the community. Under Indiana Democratic Party Bylaws, the party chair typically presides over caucuses. The party has 30 days from the beginning of the vacancy – November 30 – to hold the caucus.

“Party chairs have the duty to run caucus whenever a vacancy occurs. However, to be transparent and to make sure that our caucus runs smoothly, I am recusing myself on anything related to this caucus,” said Chairwoman Crossley. She also said, “Should I win the caucus, I will also resign from my position as the Monroe County Democratic Party Chairwoman immediately after the caucus.”

Under the Indiana Democratic Party Bylaws, the party vice chair serves an acting capacity on these matters in the absence of the chair. David G. Henry, MCDP vice-chair, will preside over the caucus and serve as the party point of contact for this caucus. “In a perfect world, Indiana would join other states in having recall and referendum voting, not to mention direct elections to fill vacancies,” said Henry. “Since the Republican supermajority has long opposed those reforms, we choose to conduct as open and transparent a process as possible under the rules we have,” said Henry.