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Lauzon sets sights on 4th mayoral bid

By [David Delcore](#)

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BARRE — Mayor Thomas Lauzon says he'll be running sooner rather than later in 2012.

Lauzon, who flirted with the idea of challenging Bernie Sanders for his seat in the U.S. Senate and entering next year's gubernatorial campaign, has decided he likes the office he has just fine.

Tuesday, Lauzon announced he will run for his fourth consecutive two-year term as Barre's mayor in March.

The announcement, which came as Tuesday night's City Council meeting was coming to a close, was greeted with a rapid-fire endorsement from a man who is the mayor's polar opposite politically.

"I want to be the first to publicly say: 'I support your re-election,'" Councilor Paul Poirier told Lauzon.

Lauzon, who defeated former Mayor Peter Anthony in 2006, hasn't been challenged since. It is not yet clear whether he will run unopposed again in 2012. Prospective candidates for various city and school offices have until Jan. 30 to file nominating petitions signed by at least 30 Barre voters.

Lauzon will be one of them, as will City Clerk Treasurer Carol Dawes, who said she plans on running for what would be her third two-year term in March.

According to Dawes, some incumbents are starting to inquire about nominating petitions, while others — most notably two members of the city's school board — have announced they won't be running for re-election.

Three seats on the City Council — one from each ward — will be filled by voters in March, as will four seats on the local school board and three on the Spaulding High School Board. Candidates for first constable will also be on the ballot.

Councilor Dominic Etli has yet to announce his plans in Ward 1, incumbent Michael Boutin has said he will be a candidate in Ward 2 in March, and Anita Chadderton has said she hasn't decided whether she'll run for re-election in Ward 3.

Dawes said that Chadderton, who also holds an expiring seat on the school board, has asked about nominating petitions.

School Board Chairwoman Marcia Biondolillo and board member Linda Carrier have both announced they will be stepping down in March, creating at least two vacancies. If Chadderton decides not to run for her school board seat, there would be three. All are three-year terms. The fourth school board seat is held by Sonya Spaulding. Spaulding was