

Municipal elections on September 22nd, 2024 – programme of the Ostermundigen Greens

Our campaign slogan for the legislative body (“Grosser Gemeinderat”) and the executive body (“Gemeinderat”) is “environment – solidarity – participation”.

Environment

Our motion “Mainstreaming climate protection”, which, for example requires Ostermundigen to obtain the Energy City Gold label by 2028, was adopted several years ago. We now need to take concrete measures to protect the climate and conserve biodiversity:

Our plans for transport: we do not want to just replace fuel cars with electric ones, but also aim to make cycling, walking and using public transportation more attractive and to demonstrate the advantages of these means of transportation. For instance, the municipal authorities should raise awareness among youth by offering a subsidy towards a one-year Libero¹ or GA travel card² or towards the purchase of a bicycle. In areas off line 10, public transportation needs to be improved. To reduce traffic, we wish to promote regional and local production and consumption and are fighting the motorway enlargements planned around Bern³. Our measures will make transport not only more environmentally friendly, but also healthier and less noisy.

The replacement of oil and gas heating systems and the insulation of new and existing buildings must progress faster. If rents rise as a consequence, the increase must be less than the reduction in utility payments. Construction materials must be reused, as locally as possible, and the development of solar power must be accelerated.

To eliminate heat islands, we need more green areas and trees, and fewer sealed surfaces. Areas that are not built over, such as Rörswil⁴, need to be protected as such and managed in a way that improves soil quality and biodiversity.

¹ <https://www.mylibero.ch/de/abos>

² <https://www.sbb.ch/en/billette-angebote/abos/ga.html> (available in English)

³ <https://spurwechsel-bern.ch/uebersicht-ausbauprojekte/>

⁴ <https://s.geo.admin.ch/z0k7sk0k43bx>

Solidarity

To fight the rising cost of living also in the municipality, one of our proposals is to reduce remuneration for building rights⁵ on municipal land for non-profit housing, as has already been done for the tram turning loop project on Rütliweg⁶.

Existing social programmes, such as the early childhood support scheme schritt:weise⁷, should be accessible without waiting lists. The municipal authorities have included many useful proposals in their social strategy (Leitbild Gesellschaft⁸). These proposals need to be implemented quickly. In addition to that, the municipal authorities should offer care services for school children also during school holidays, and provide vouchers for continuing education, in particular for German language courses.

Benchmark analyses have shown that the municipal employees of Ostermundigen work very efficiently. Austerity measures impacting them would be counter-productive.

When purchasing goods and services, Ostermundigen should place more weight on criteria relating to the environment and decent labour.

Participation

The Greens believe that all people living in Ostermundigen should have their say here, for instance by submitting proposals to the legislative body, as is possible in Bern⁹.

Ostermundigen needs more spaces where people can meet without any obligation to spend money, such as the self-managed cultural centre Tell or the sports halls that are accessible to students outside school hours. For instance, we propose opening rehearsal rooms for bands and workshops for creating and repairing wood and textile objects, with the part-time presence of instructors. In order to support voluntary projects, we have submitted a proposal for a participatory budget¹⁰. These provisions and all other public spaces need to be accessible for all, meaning also for wheelchair users, visually impaired people, parents – especially mothers of young children.

Do you have comments or questions? Get in touch with us, for instance at our stand at the Mundige-Fest¹¹ on Saturday, August 31st, or by writing to info@gruene-ostermundigen.ch. This translation was revised by a native speaker, but most of our members speak English.

5 <https://www.bwo.admin.ch/bwo/de/home/wohnraumfoerderung/baurechte.html>

6 <https://tram-bern-ostermundigen.ch/das-projekt/haltestellen/endhaltestelleoberfeld/>

7 https://www.ostermundigen.ch/de/verwaltung/dienstleistungen/159_programm-schritt:weise







8 <https://www.ostermundigen.ch/de/aktuelles-projekte/aktuelles/meldungen/LeitbildGesellschaft.php>



9 <https://www.bern.ch/themen/stadt-recht-und-politik/mitreden-und-mitgestalten/partizipationsmotion>

10 https://www.ostermundigen.ch/wAssets/docs/politik-verwaltung/politik/grosser-gemeinderat/archiv/2024/September/T295.0_MotionBudget.pdf

11 <https://www.mundige-fescht.ch/>

Our candidates

Main candidates	
	<p>Adrian Tanner</p> <p>1987, MA Conference interpreting, Faculty of Translation and Interpretation Geneva, translator Legislative body (Grosser Gemeinderat; incumbent) Executive body (Gemeinderat; candidate)</p>
	<p>Kathrin Ernst</p> <p>1991, Public transport project manager, BSc Electrotechnics, Federal institute of technology Lausanne Legislative body (Grosser Gemeinderat; incumbent) Executive body (Gemeinderat; candidate)</p>
	<p>Samuel A.J. Augustiny</p> <p>1989, MSc Mechanics, civil engineering project manager Legislative body (Grosser Gemeinderat; candidate)</p>
	<p>Christian Burr</p> <p>1974, Lecturer, Berne University of applied sciences, registered nurse and researcher in nursing sciences, Dr. rer. cur. Legislative body (Grosser Gemeinderat; candidate)</p>
Other candidates for the legislative body (Grosser Gemeinderat)	
	<p>Natascha Neumeister</p> <p>1968, General practitioner, Dr. med.</p>
	<p>Emanuel Indermühle</p> <p>1980, Computer scientist, Dr. phil. nat., software architect</p>

		<p>Folco Giacomini</p> <p>1973, Geologist, Dr. rer. nat., independent candidate</p>
		<p>Thomas Feider</p> <p>1990, Architect, Federal institute of technology</p>

Proofreading: Oscar Hughes