



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

PHONE: 217-424-2708

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August 10, 2021

Brenden Moore
Decatur Herald and Review

Re: Freedom of Information Request 2021-01964
Cover Letters/Resumes for Vacant City Council Seat

Dear Brenden:

Thank you for writing to the City of Decatur with your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.

Your request is for: cover letters/resumes of candidates who have expressed interest in being appointed to Rodney Walker's council seat.

After review, your request is allowed in part, and also denied in part pursuant to the following Illinois Freedom of Information Act Sections, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* containing the applicable exemptions identified below:

5 ILCS 140/7 1 Exemptions. (1) When a request is made to inspect or copy a public record that contains information that is exempt from disclosure under this Section, but also contains information that is not exempt from disclosure, the public body may elect to redact the information that is exempt. The public body shall make the remaining information available for inspection and copying. Subject to this requirement, the following shall be exempt from inspection and copying:

Copies are provided herewith, except for private information exempt from disclosure pursuant to the exemptions below. Where messages contain both exempt and non-exempt information, exempt information has been redacted, also pursuant to the exemptions listed below.

Pursuant to Section 7 (1) (b), redacted portions of the specified records constitute "private information" including signatures, personal phone numbers, home addresses, dates of birth, and personal email addresses.

Pursuant to Section (7) (1) (c), personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy is not subject to disclosure.

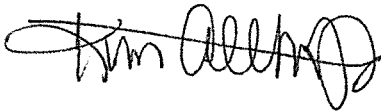
You have a right to have the denial of your request reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5 (a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield IL 62701-1705
Phone: 1-877-299-3642
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in the State Circuit Court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this denial letter 5 ILCS 140/9.5 (a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this denial letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Althoff", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kim Althoff
Freedom of Information Administrator

Attachment

July 28, 2021

Kim Althoff, City Clerk
City of Decatur

Good morning Kim,

It was mentioned to me that the City of Decatur is seeking information from residents interested in filling a vacant council position.

I would be interested in being considered for that position and feel my experience in business, finance, public affairs and civic and charitable organizations would complement the needs of the council.


I believe Decatur has great potential to leverage assets such as Millikin University, Richland Community College, Lake Decatur, its rail and highway logistics, climate, central location, strong agricultural innovation network and work force to be what the Rockefeller Foundation referred to as a "Resilient City", "a place particularly adapted and suited to deal with the physical, economic and social challenges of the 21st century". I believe the impacts of climate change we are experiencing today combined with the affordability of the Midwest compared to the coasts will incent businesses and their employees to consider locations in the Midwest and, Decatur is well positioned to capitalize on that trend.

SmartAsset recently ranked Decatur IL as the fourth best place to work in manufacturing in 2020 and if we can capitalize on that we can bring manufacturing jobs to Decatur which are the foundation for bringing service jobs, healthcare jobs and retail jobs to the city. However, we as a city have to assure we have the existence of adequate infrastructure; inclusive culture; cultural opportunities; social amenities; innovation centers; leadership, integrity and a sense of urgency in civic operations; leading edge educational capabilities; and, business incubators that support the new types of emerging businesses and manufacturing in the world of Artificial Intelligence; 3D printing; substitutes for meat; and the move to electric vehicles and other technologies.

I have included the attached resume for consideration as requested.

All the best and good luck in your search.

William J. Brennan CPA, CGMA, MBA



WILLIAM J. BRENNAN CPA, MBA, CGMA

Cell: [REDACTED]
Internet: Home: [REDACTED]
Profile: [REDACTED]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS / FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT / GENERAL MANAGEMENT / CONSULTING

Executive with experience in private equity start-up and public Fortune 100 companies. Directed all aspects of Finance and Accounting including, building a public company infrastructure, SEC filings, Mergers & Acquisitions, Business Development, Treasury, Rating Agencies liaison, Investor Relations, Information Systems, Human Resources, Procurement, Internal Audit and Operations. Results include raising significant funds, improving operations, increasing revenue and cash flow, streamlining governance and control systems, designing and building sophisticated business models and forecasting processes, designing and implementing strategic, marketing and tactical planning processes focused on driving shareholder value/EVA growth and, building high performance teams and achieving significant tax benefits. Extensive change management experience. Implemented Sarbanes-Oxley in a company with 5 reporting entities and, co-chaired team for one with 230. Licensed CPA (Wisconsin), Chartered Global Management Accountant and, MBA. Qualified Audit Committee Financial Reporting Expert.

EXPERIENCE

WBJ Business Advisory Services **Managing Partner**

Business Consulting
August 2011 – Present

Consulting and interim engagements to increase shareholder value, provide transaction and assurance services and assist with public policy issues in the renewable energy industry. Also, consult in the areas of M&A, discovery analysis, due diligence and expert witness services. Completed consulting assignments with Aventine Renewable Energy in the ethanol industry and, Lake Pointe Partners for an analysis of the biodiesel industry and a specific company in for a major bank. Also open to positions on Boards of Directors for companies looking to complement their Board's strategic, financial and financial reporting abilities.

Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC & Affiliates **Chief Financial Officer**

Manufacturer & Marketer of Ethanol
March 2014 – July 2016

Responsibilities include accounting, treasury, financial analysis, purchasing, insurance risk management, administration and, information technology for a \$500 million, 4,100 member Cooperative and its subsidiaries. Retired July 2016.

- Completed negotiation of and closed on \$125 million financing package.
- Designed and implemented investment policy, process and reports and established banking relationship for investment of excess funds.
- Built a new accounting, finance, procurement and IT organization from scratch.
- Identified and recovered \$11.8 million of prior year's tax deductions.
- Established IC-DISC to significantly increase shareholder value by decreasing their tax burden.

Aventine Renewable Energy Holdings, Inc. **Chief Accounting & Compliance Officer**

Manufacturer & Marketer of Ethanol
November 2005 – April 2011

Chief Financial Officer**October 2004 – November 2005**

Recruited as CFO of Aventine (NYSE:AVR, now AVRW.OB), a \$1.5 billion multi-site leading producer and marketer of ethanol with 400 employees. Responsible for all investor relations, accounting and finance. Appointed Chief Accounting & Compliance Officer prior to IPO. Left company after seeing it through a successful emergence from chapter 11 when the headquarters was relocated.

- Completed \$160 MM 144(A) Private Offering of Secured Notes in December 2004. Coordinated work with lawyers on the Offering Memorandum (OM) and participated with the CEO in the road shows, rating agency presentations and, filed SEC Registration Statement on Form S-4.
- Completed \$300 MM 144(A) Private Placement of Common Stock in December 2005. Coordinated work with lawyers, investment bankers and auditors on the OM and road show materials.
- Completed \$390MM IPO in June 2006. Worked with lawyers, investment bankers and auditors on the Offering Memorandum, road show materials and SEC filing on Form S-1.
- Completed \$300MM Notes Offering in March 2007 and related S-4 Registration in June 2007.
- Implemented SEC reporting processes, Insider Trading Policy, Disclosure Policy and Stock Awards.
- Led team that built a public company from a spin-off division and implemented Sarbanes-Oxley.
- Implemented tax savings initiatives to save the company \$45 million over three years.
- Upgraded Finance and Accounting Team to public company level from spin-off division.
- Responsible for Investor Relations, Media Relations, economic development and external affairs activity (Company spokesperson, lobbying, tax incremental financing, tax incentives)
- Saw Company through a successful filing of and emergence from Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Omnicare Inc. (NYSE:OCR) Long-Term Care Institutional Pharmacy Roll-up**Regional Chief Financial & Operations Support Officer****July 2001 – September 2004**

Recruited as CFO of Northwest Region of Omnicare Inc. an institutional pharmacy provider with 12,900 employees. Promoted to CFO of Eastern Region, Omnicare's largest region with \$1.1 billion of revenue and 59 institutional pharmacies in November 2002. Responsibilities included all finance, accounting, billing, intake and procurement functions. Member of Corporate Profitability Analysis & Planning Steering Committee, Lawson Conversion Steering Committee and, Sarbanes-Oxley Steering Committee. Moved to Corporate SOX implementation team in February 2004. Left company upon being recruited to Aventine Renewable Energy Holdings, Inc. Key accomplishments of the finance team:

- Integrated acquisitions of 33 reporting entities into the Eastern Region during 2003
- Implemented strategic partnership with external collections organization and restructured collections processes in Northwest Region to free-up billing organization time to work on accuracy of bills.
- Implemented lockboxes and outsourced bill mailing activities at cost of materials to free-up billing group to focus on accuracy and reducing bad debt to improve cash flow.
- Reduced inventory days on hand from 29.7 to 20.1 to improve efficiency and increase cash flow.
- Upgraded Northwest Region accounting organization and implemented Balanced Scorecard.
- Developed business plan for and supported launch of new line of business in Northwest Region.
- Improved efficiency of monthly closing process and reduced the time to close by two days.
- Co-chaired Corporate Sarbanes-Oxley implementation team.

Polestar Communications, Inc. - Unified Communications/Internet Services**Chief Financial Officer****December 1999 to May 2001**

Recruited in December 1999 to be CFO of the start-up officer team to launch major initiative in Canada and U.S. with targeted IPO within eighteen months. Company had 110 employees. CFO responsibilities for accounting, payroll, finance, investor relations and HR, also interim COO responsibilities for Network Operations, Customer Services and Client Services. Extensive involvement in development of strategic plan, investor road shows in Canada and US for major second round pre-IPO financing initiative, business development, cash management, pricing, operations, IS and, development of accounting processes. In March

of 2001 the company ultimately succumbed to the impact of the stock market crash of early 2000. Stayed for two months with HR Director without pay to assure benefits and 401-K issues were properly handled.

William J. Brennan, CPA - Business Plan, Tax & Consulting dba ValueSurge Business Architects
Partner **July 1998 - November 1999**

Upon merger of US Filter with Culligan in June 1998 I went into a private accounting and consulting practice to allow myself the flexibility to be available to help care for my college daughter who had broken her back in an accident the day prior to the merger announcement, was undergoing several spinal surgeries and required extensive personal care during her recovery and therapy. Upon her recovery I accepted a position with a start-up unified communications company in Portland OR intending on completing an IPO.

US Filter Corporation (NYSE:USF) **Consumer Products Mfg., Sales & Service**
Vice President, Central Region **January 1998 - June 1998**

Recruited to be part of start-up officer team to launch US Filter Consumer Products Division through an aggressive acquisition/roll-up strategy. Full P&L responsibility for production, sales and service in the central eighteen states of the United States with \$40 million in revenue and 160 employees. Extensive experience in integration of acquisitions. Also managed HR, Payroll and Environmental & Safety for all three regions. The start-up team was disbanded when Culligan decided to sell out to US Filter.

- By June 1998, CPD grew from \$20 million to \$128 million of revenues and 1,300 employees with bottling, manufacturing and sales service operations throughout the US & Canada.
- Increased revenues by approximately \$350,000/month through integration of acquisitions, definition of sales strategy, new product development and expansion.

De La Rue Systems Americas Corp. (London:DLAR) **Manufacturing, Sales & Service**
Senior Vice President, CFO & Treasurer **September 1996-January 1998**

Responsible for all financial, treasury, banking, internal and external audit, business planning, MIS and HR, risk management operations of North America & South America for a \$300 million high technology manufacturing (demand flow technology and standard and job order cost environment), sales, service, electronic security and central station monitoring, and software development company with 300 employees serving the banking and commercial industries. Performed lobbying activities on behalf of De La Rue and represented the company on a health management business coalition. In July 1997 took over responsibility for business development, M&A activity, treasury, and administrative functions. Company served North America, Caribbean and South America. Also, supervised CIO, Director-HR, Training, Facilities and Fleet Management and, Change Manager and Rollout Manager implementing ORACLE ERP.

- Restructured financial organization to provide improved operations, reporting and teamwork.
- Identified significant inventory, accounts receivable and cost accounting problems and led team that developed and implemented a comprehensive process improvement plan
- Negotiated purchase and planned integration of acquisitions of independent distribution channel.
- As member of Executive Team worked on special strategic and valuation analysis of the company leading to a restructuring and sale of a division and, restructuring of remaining operations.
- Created leasing program to facilitate bidding on large sales projects.
- Focused IS department to be a customer service focused organization.
- Orchestrated the planning and approval process for the construction, special funding and government incentives for a planned seven story headquarters and an operations building.

Ameritech/AT&T/Wisconsin Bell (NYSE:AIT) **January 1980 - August 1996**
High Tech Telecom Infrastructure & Services

VP-Finance & Controller (Ameritech Info. Industry Services) **April 1993 - August 1996**

SBU-CFO. Selected for GE modeled "Breakthrough Leadership Transformation Officer Team". Planned and supervised start-up, recruitment; design, implementation and management of all P&L reporting; financial management; accounting; financial analysis; business case development; capital budgeting; support for new product development and roll-outs; intellectual property management; and, financial planning for new business unit serving Ameritech and its competitors. Coordinated development of annual business plan and participated in its presentation to Ameritech Executive Committee. Other responsibilities included review and approval of contracts; structuring and negotiations of joint ventures; investor relations support; financial management of LLC and, representation on venture boards of directors. Ameritech Senior Finance representative on the Ameritech Marketing Council.

- The unit launched in 1993 with \$160 million of revenue, grew to \$285 million in 1995 and achieved its target of \$460 million in 1996. The business unit served ten complex business segments including: Cellular and PCS (network construction and services); CLEC (facilities based and resale); CableTV; Voicemail; Security & Monitoring; and, Internet Providers.
- Gained significant experience in culture and change management as member of Ameritech "Breakthrough Leadership" transformation officer team working with Noel Tichy and, on the officer team of the unit that implemented wholesale pricing of telecommunications services.
- Member of negotiating team for joint venture with Wisvest (Wis. Energy Corp.), established related LLC (Quantum Control Systems LLC) and served on Board Of Directors.
- Member of negotiating team for joint venture with to deploy voicemail platforms in major markets.

Comptroller-Wisconsin Bell, Inc. (Ameritech Subsidiary/formerly subsidiary of AT&T) 1992 – 1993

Chief Accounting Officer of company with \$2 billion of revenue, 1.4 million customers and 10,000 employees, including approximately 4,500 employees subject to collective bargaining. Supervised and directed highly diverse staff of 163, including a 25 member finance and tax professional staff. Managed all accounting and financial staff operations including establishment of accounting policies, practices, procedures, interpretations, financial reporting to the SEC, FCC, PSC, management, shareholders, federal, state and local tax compliance and return preparation, liaison activities with external, internal, regulatory and tax auditors, all vendors and payroll cash disbursement and record keeping activities, long-range accounting, financial planning and analysis activities and billing activities.

- Introduced Total Quality Management to accounting transaction processing organization and implemented service improvements and cost reduction of approximately \$800,000 in first year.
- Coordinated rating agency road shows with S&P and Moody's; provided investor relations support.
- Streamlined Executive Committee reporting package freeing up 435 person hours per month.
- Managed \$300MM tax budget, planning, compliance and audit activities and, identified initiatives and supported lobbying activities that lowered tax burden by \$11.5 million/yr.
- Responsible for company wide \$2.5 million budget for end-user computing equipment.
- Represented the company on various business, civic, charitable and arts boards and committees and engaged in numerous public speaking engagements on behalf of company.
- Significant experience in managing change and participating in planning, implementation and process reengineering required to divest company from AT&T and downsize from 10,300 to 7,000 employees in preparation for an increasingly competitive marketplace.

District Manager, Long Range Planning (AT&T/Wis. Bell, Inc./Ameritech) 1990 – 1991

Monitored and analyzed the political and regulatory environment to make recommendations as to when to introduce strategic initiatives and whether to introduce them in the regulatory or legislative arenas. Also, the overall project manager for rate case implementation activities, which required coordinating the activities of team members from many departments.

- Integrated corporate strategic, financial, construction and regulatory objectives into a cohesive plan and developed strategic stakeholder plan to achieve buy-in from critical stakeholder groups.

- Co-Chaired team of executives from Wisconsin's 96 telecommunications companies in creating an industry vision document and PR plan on the industry's Vision Of The 21st Century which ultimately led to legislation eliminating rate-of-return regulation and providing pricing flexibility.
- Chaired Quality of Service project and worked with to achieve buy-in for strategic initiatives.
- Successful Project Management of rate case implementation involving significant interdepartmental and inter-entity activity and, coordination with regulatory agency and outside legal counsel.

District Manager, Jurisdictional Separations (AT&T/Wis. Bell, Inc./Ameritech) 1986 – 1989

Directed staff of 28 performing complex and detailed volume, investment, revenue and expense cost accounting studies necessary to apportion the Company's \$2.2 billion of capital assets and \$1.0 billion of expenses to the appropriate jurisdictions for cost of service and pricing purposes.

- Increased revenue by \$12 million annually and initiated and co-chaired team with marketing peer that corrected significant cost apportionment problems that were causing pricing anomalies.
- Developed mechanization plan and was able to reduce staff to 14 while increasing workload 33%.
- Eliminated my own position by consolidating my remaining staff into other existing districts.

Staff Manager - Operations & Corp. Accounting (AT&T/Wis. Bell, Inc./Ameritech) 1982 – 1985

Planned and coordinated the financial transaction and reporting aspects of the divestiture of Wisconsin Bell, Inc. from AT&T. Supervised all corporate accounting functions and the preparation of all financial reports for management, shareholders and filings with SEC (10-K, 10-Q, 8-K, etc.), FCC and PSC.

- Handled increased workload during the three-year period necessary to effect the divestiture from AT&T without requiring additional staff.
- Provided official company interpretations, implementation of and comments on FASB pronouncements of generally accepted accounting principles and reporting requirements.
- Performed due diligence, discovery analysis and expert accounting and finance witness activities.

Staff Manager, Taxes (AT&T/Wis. Bell, Inc./Ameritech) 1981 – 1982

- Analyzed tax codes and worked with lobbyists to introduce and pass legislation that reduced the company tax burden by \$30 million.

Internal Auditor (AT&T/Wis. Bell, Inc./Ameritech) 1980 – 1981

- Selected to head major audit team to perform audit for Chairman of AT&T of the processes of billing the subsidiary companies, Chairman's License Contract Audit.

Prior Positions

Grant Thornton Certified Public Accountants, Senior Auditor 1977 – 1980

- Manufacturing, banking, insurance and distribution client audits and taxes

CERTIFICATION/EDUCATION

CPA - Certified Public Accountant (Licensed in Wisconsin)
 CGMA – Chartered Global Management Accountant
 MBA (Finance Emphasis), Marquette University, 1984
 BBA (Accounting), University of Wisconsin (Milw.) 1977

Executive development programs including those at Kellogg Graduate School, Northwestern University, University of Wisconsin, University of Southern California and, the Center for Creative Leadership.

CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

American Institute Of Certified Public Accountants
OSF St. Francis Hospital Foundation Board 2005 – 2009
Peoria Symphony Board of Directors 2007 – 2009
The Conference Board - Council of CFO's 1995-1998; Executive Committee of Council, 1996-1998
Cedar Rapids Symphony Board of Directors, 1997
Regional Healthcare Alliance - Vice President, 1997
WICPA International & Domestic Trade Committee, 1989-1991
WICPA Legislative Audit Bureau (Chair 1988), 1987-1988
Ameritech Executive Speakers Panel, 1985 - 1996
United Way Allocations Committee, 1990-1992
Florentine Opera Company Board of Directors, (Milwaukee) 1992-1993
Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce (Legislative Committee), 1992-1993
Quantum Control Systems, LLC - Board of Directors (Chair 1996), 1995-1996

OTHER AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Governor's Award for Bravery - State of Wisconsin
VFW Merit Award For Bravery

Jessica M. Cameron



July 22, 2021

Dear Ms. Althoff and Decatur City Council:

I am asking to be considered for the vacant position on the Decatur City Council.

I am a teacher for Decatur Public Schools, and have been for seven years. I teach Kindergarten at Johns Hill Magnet School. I am proud to work for our local school district. Teaching has afforded me the opportunity to see the strengths and weaknesses of our community. I have wanted to do more for sometime, and I feel that City Council is an opportunity to be able to contribute more.

I am a life-long Decatur resident. I live on the southeast side of town, in an area that has seen many changes and challenges. I attended St. Patrick, St. Teresa, Richland Community College, and Millikin University. I have also worked in the non-profit sector here in Decatur, when I was Case Manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters. Being a case manager afford me the chance to work with other people who were interested in showing how investment in the community could lead to positive change.

I would appreciate being considered for the vacant position on the Decatur City Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jessica M. Cameron

Jessica M. Cameron



Objective:

To be considered for the vacant position on the Decatur, Illinois City Council

Education and Certification:

Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois - BS in Elementary Education, concentration in History
Illinois Standard Teaching Certificate - K-9 - Highly Qualified in accordance to No Child Left Behind, additionally endorsed in Early Childhood Education, Special Education, English as a Second Language and Developmental Therapy.

Experience:

Kindergarten teacher, Johns Hill Magnet School, Decatur, Illinois 2017-present

- * Utilized differentiated instruction and art integration techniques to ensure quality instruction.
- * Served on the school leadership committee and assisted in crafting the school improvement plan
- * Received the March 2021 "Heart of the District" award from Decatur Public Schools.

At-Risk Pre-Kindergarten teacher, Southeast Learning Center, Decatur, Illinois 2015-2017

- * Created a nurturing and caring environment for both at-risk ESL students and blended special education students.
- * Founding faculty member for the first all-day Pre-Kindergarten program in Decatur Public Schools.
- * Obtained a "silver" ECERS-R rating from the State of Illinois and a ranking of "Distinguished" on the Danielson Framework.

Pre-Kindergarten/Primary Resource teacher, St. Patrick School, Decatur, Illinois 2013-2015

- * Taught pre-kindergarten to three year olds, including children with special needs and English as a Second Language students.
- * Worked within the primary department to differentiate instruction and assist students who had special needs.
- * Developed the pre-Kindergarten curriculum for the three-year-old class.

Case Manager for School-Based Mentoring, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Macon County, Decatur, Illinois 2012-2013

- * Supervised 55 matches between volunteers and at-risk children.
- * Assisted in community relations, sponsorship development and volunteer recruitment.
- * Worked extensively within the Decatur Public School system and with children of poverty, abuse and academic difficulties.

Kindergarten teacher, Our Lady of Lourdes School, Decatur, Illinois 2005-2010

- * Individualized lessons for the needs of different students, including students with special needs and English as a Second Language students.
- * Developed curriculum for science, social students and Spanish.

Third Grade Teacher, Stevenson Elementary, Decatur, Illinois 2004-2005

- * Provided strong leadership in a challenging classroom environment.
- * Worked within the school community to better learning opportunities for students.
- * Administered the third grade Illinois Standards Assessment Test; class made Annual Yearly Progress.

The City Council needs more diversity. I understand that might seem ironic with myself applying, but I'm throwing my "hat in the ring" with the intention of trying to represent everyone in Decatur. With Rodney stepping down we are back to an all white primary male city council. The last thing city leadership needs is another white upper class professional. I don't know who's going to apply, or who will be chosen for the position. Whoever is chosen needs to represent the traditionally underserved citizens of the city. If a more diverse and better qualified person applies they need to be chosen before myself. Everyone in life has a unique perspective, and here is mine.

I was born in 1982 here at St. Marys. I have lived in Decatur my entire life. I saw friends' parents get laid off & lose their livelihoods with the Union strikes of the late 80's & early 90's. We grew up poor. Salvation Army supplied Christmas presents. Thanksgiving Dinner at the Dove Women's Shelter, a perspective I doubt shared by many on the sitting council.

I've done almost every type of job this city has to offer. I worked at fast food as a teenager. At 17 I worked a full 8hr day in food service at DMH, and then unloaded night freight trailers for UPS. I then foolishly quit both to sell Kirby Vacuums, then cars for Bob Brady Mitsubishi. I worked as a general laborer for Bodine & Eagle services doing industrial cleaning at ADM. I've Security for Greenwood Apartments, and then back to DMH as an emergency room secretary. I've seen this city's citizens at their best and worst. We are all just people trying to get by. I feel that sometimes the current leadership forgets that.

What Decatur's leadership has been doing is not working. I do believe that the current council is trying. But that they lack the diversity or outside the box thinking to meet the problems the city is facing. Take the increase in shootings, the current approach is more police and spending 300 thousand on cameras. Reactive measures instead of trying to proactively address the issues that lead to urban gun & gang violence. Funding other social workers to take the burden off the police department. Creating work & continuing education opportunities for the financial "lower class" is the only way to address the root cause of the violence, Poverty.

Poverty leads to desperation, and that can easily lead to violence. Desperate people take actions they normally wouldn't. Opportunity and upward mobility, access to jobs and education. Turning this kind of poverty around takes deliberate planning. How long until Decatur is viewed as another Detroit, Michigan. or Centralia Pennsylvania? This City needs jobs & revenue for its citizens, and that will be the only thing that stops the violence, Opportunities.

My approach would be to meet the Corporations present in the city and ask them to help by investing to turn Decatur into a "Green city". Overhaul and upgrade infrastructure, increase the amount of onsite manufacturing of renewable technologies and hardware. We are already a shipping and transportation hub. Why not present to them the idea of investing to turn Decatur into a modern 21st century city? The city could be a sustainable model for other industrial towns. How to invest in the community, so you have a well compensated & educated workforce inside one of the best and well maintained cities. A city that is supplying the majority of the

world's food stocks. I would think ADM, Tate & Lye, and even CAT would and should want to be a part of that. Think of the fantastic public relations story that would be. The work of completing such a task would create jobs and income for residents for decades to come.

In closing we need new perspectives and approaches to city leadership. Please pick someone who wants to make Decatur better for everyone. Pick someone who wants to help people for the right reasons. Pick a public servant.

Steven T. Christian



Objective: To obtain a leadership position in which I can use my diverse skill set, to develop a strong teamwork environment on the foundation of accountability, integrity, and pride in one's work.

Burdick Company

Decatur, IL

Administrative Assistant

1/15 - present

- Dispatch and scheduling for service department.
- Billing for residential and industrial clients.
- Monthly accounts receivable reporting & collections reporting.
- Payroll processing.
- Fork truck operation for industrial parts deliveries.
- Monthly cost analysis reporting.

HydroGear

Sullivan, IL

Fork Truck Driver/ Machine Operator

11/13 – 1/6/15

- Operate several CNC machines simultaneously.
- Loads CNC machine ensuring each part is loaded correctly, with proper seating, and removing each completed part and visually inspecting it for defects.
- Trained to conduct quality checks on many types of parts.
- Consistently exceeds shift quota for each machine by utilizing my time efficiently and keeping the machines clean and in proper working order.

Decatur Memorial Hospital

Decatur, IL

Office Manager/Supervisor

7/09 – 01/12

- Supervised 25 employees, scheduled work hours, resolved conflicts and conducted evaluations to determine pay increases.
- Established doctor schedules and assignments for five separate urgent care clinics, according to patient volume, workflow, and provider availability.
- Directed and conducted hiring and training of personnel.
- Trained new office assistants in patient registration, billing and coding, and customer service skills.
- Managed 14 providers and achieved significant support staff improvements allowing the providers to maintain a high level of patient care with the ever-increasing health care demands.
- Maintained communication between hospital administrations, all urgent care office managers, providers, medical staff, and clerical staff by attending medical group manager meetings and weekly meetings with hospital administration.
- Developed and implemented organizational policies and procedures for the urgent care clinics.
- Spearheaded efforts to improve patient satisfaction and customer retention by creating a team of individuals that were focused on customer service, efficiency, and attention to detail.

Steven T. Christian



- Prepared activity reports to inform hospital administration of the status and implementation plans of programs, services, and quality initiatives.
- Successfully managed patient complaints that were reported via survey, email, postal mail, and phone calls. Established root cause of complaint and resolved issues with effective communication and by using the resources available to me.
- Served as Six Sigma Yellow belt for urgent care clinics conducting workouts for customer service, patient flow efficiency and red flag compliance.
- Consulted with medical, business, and community groups to discuss service problems, responded to community needs, enhanced public relations, coordinated activities and plans, and promoted health programs.
- Was instrumental in the construction planning for the expansion of the urgent care clinic. This expansion gave us the ability to double our patient volume capacity and an added a nurse's station and expanded the patient lobby edition while continuing to see patients for twelve hours a day, seven days a week.

Decatur Memorial Hospital

Decatur, IL

Unit Secretary / ER

1/08 - 7/09

- Performed secretarial duties, utilizing knowledge of medical terminology and hospital, clinic and laboratory procedures.
- Arranged hospital admissions for patients.
- Received and routed messages and documents such as radiology and laboratory results to appropriate staff.
- Answered telephones and directed calls to appropriate staff.
- Answered telephones and gave information to callers, took messages, and transferred calls to appropriate individuals.
- Operated office equipment such as fax machines, copiers, and phone systems, and used computers for spreadsheet, word processing, database management and other applications.

Decatur Memorial Hospital

Decatur, IL

Sterile Processing Tech

7/07 - 1/08

- Disinfected and sterilized equipment such as surgical tools and equipment using sterilizers, aerators, and washers.
- Delivered equipment to specified hospital locations.
- Maintained records of inventory and equipment usage.
- Installed and set up medical equipment using hand tools.
- Purged wastes from equipment by connecting equipment to water sources and flushing water through systems.
- Organized and assembled routine and specialty surgical instrument trays and other sterilized supplies, filling special requests as needed.
- Recorded sterilizer test results.

Steven T. Christian



- Checked sterile supplies to ensure that they were not outdated.
- Cleaned instruments to prepare them for sterilization.
- Worked with orthopedic equipment sales personnel to ensure surgeon has proper internal hardware.

Guardsmark Security at Millikin University

Decatur, IL

Security Guard

1/04 - 7/07

- Dispatched security personnel to client sites for private, protective-service firm.
- Monitored, noted, reported, and investigated suspicious persons and situations, safety hazards, and unusual and illegal activity in patrolled area.
- Photographed and drew diagrams of crime and accident scenes and interviewed principals and eyewitnesses.
- Provided for public safety by maintaining order, responding to emergencies, protecting people and property, enforcing campus policy and code of conduct, and promoting good community relations.
- Patrolled specific area on foot, bicycle, and motorized conveyance, responding promptly to calls for assistance.
- Directed activities of personnel in revising and updating security measures due to new or revised regulations.
- Directed traffic flow and rerouted traffic for campus and community events.
- Relayed complaint and emergency-request information to appropriate agency dispatchers and campus administration.
- Interviewed applicants and hired guards.
- Supervised 12 employees, scheduled work hours, resolved conflicts, determined salaries.
- Trained all guards in Red Cross first aid, CPR, AED, and all emergency preparedness procedures.
- Rendered aid to accident victims and other persons requiring first aid for physical injuries.
- Steadily increased campus revenue by issuing citations and warnings to violators of motor vehicle ordinances.

Training:

- Certified trainer for American Heart and Lung Association Heart Saver First Aid, Adult CPR & AED, Child CPR & AED, and Infant CPR
- Six Sigma Yellow Belt certified
- SkillPath certified in Managing and Eliminating Unacceptable Behavior and Other Employee Performance Barriers

References: Available upon request

July 29, 2021

Ms. Kim Althoff, City Clerk
City of Decatur
1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL. 62523

Dear Ms. Althoff,

I am writing to express my interest in filling the vacancy on the City Council and being voted into the position when it comes up for re-election.

I was born and reared in Decatur, Illinois. I attended Decatur Public Schools, beginning in kindergarten, and graduating from Stephen Decatur High School. Several of my children have graduated from Decatur Public Schools, and we currently have a granddaughter attending Decatur Public Schools (EHS) and doing quite well. My wife, Virginia and I have five (5) children, (2 boys & 3 girls).

While my career with the Illinois Department of Corrections took me away from Decatur for many years, upon retiring I felt drawn back to this community to spend time with my family and long-term friends. Since returning, I am actively involved in church, volunteer programs, supporting civic affairs and participating in many activities to support the needs of the community. I also have returned to work on a part-time basis and have enjoyed the new learning experience with ADM.

I am invested in this community and the people who live here. I also have a strong desire to work with others to further grow our community. I bring a great deal of experience in working with diversity and being responsible is one of my greatest strengths. With my long and successful administrative experiences with the State of Illinois Department of Corrections I have a strong interest in pursuing ideals that I think will make Decatur a safer city. Working with youth and young adults is a strong passion of mine and I believe my background in this area will benefit our City. In addition, I want to pursue ideas to bring businesses to the Decatur community. I would also like to seek ways in which we could lower property taxes to maintain home ownership in Decatur and attract additional homeowners to Decatur to increase our population.

Lastly, I want to emphasize that I am aware of the issues that Decatur City Council is dealing with at the current time, such as violence in our community, request for hiring more police officers, neighborhood revitalization, and the Southside Johns Hill project. I am willing and able

to provide my input on these and other topics that come before the Council. I'm sure you will find my input to be an asset to the Council and it will provide a diversity to the discussions.

Respectfully,


Dennis R. Cooper

RESUME

Dennis R. Cooper



Experience:

07/2012 - Present

Archer Daniels Midland Company Decatur, Illinois
Sensory Specialist (Part-time): Sample food products for distribution.

12/2008 - 02/2010

Surgical Specialists of Central, Illinois
Personal Driver for Dr. Jack White Sr.

01/1975 - 01/2007

Illinois Department of Corrections (Retired)
Chief of Community Outreach/Special Assistant to Director:
Special assignment for Director Roger Walker and Governor

Chief of Staff:

Responsible for managing special projects for the Director. Direct supervision of several departments, including but not limited to Personnel, Victim Service Unit, Jail & Detention Service, Volunteer Services, and Community Outreach Services. Supervised the hiring of more than 14,000 employees in the 2nd largest State Agency in Illinois.

Public Service Administrator (Clinical Service Supervisor):

Responsible for supervision of the Clinical Services Dept. Conducted employee and resident's disciplinary hearing. Reviewed reports from subordinates, scheduled workloads, completed employee evaluations. Performed Duty Administrative Officer functions in absence of the Facility Chief Administrative Officer.

Senior Public Service Administrator (Operations Supt.)
Responsible for the security function of the facility. Supervised security personnel.

Superintendent I (Chief Administrator Officer) Responsible for the operations of the Juvenile facility in Kankakee. Lead all functions of the day-to-day operation.

Chief of Security of Operations
Assistant Center Supervisor
Youth Supervisor IV
Youth Supervisor II

11/2002 - 06/2003

Kane County Sheriff Department-Batavia, Illinois
Deputy Sheriff (Court Security Officer)
Responsible to ensure the security of the entire Court House.

Education:

Lake Land College, Mattoon, Illinois
Associate Degree in General Studies, May 1972
Associate Degree in Science, November, 1972
Emphasis in Industrial Technology and Physical Edu.

Illinois State University, Normal Illinois 1972-1974
Governor State University, University Park, Illinois 1990
Chicago State University, Chicago, Illinois 1992

Professional Memberships: Church of the Living God, Pillar and Ground of the Truth-
National Treasurer
Finance Director, C.O.T.L.G. Temple #2, Decatur, IL.
President of C.O.T.L.G. Diocese #3 Youth Council
Vice-President of C.O.T.L.G. National Finance Board
President of National Association of Blacks in Criminal
Justice-Greater Illinois Chapter
Decatur's Community Concerned Citizens

References:

Provided Upon Request.

ELIJAH ENGLAND

August 4, 2021

City of Decatur

RE: City Councilman,

Dear Kim Althoff (City Clerk)

Upon learning about the City Councilman posting with City of Decatur, I was eager to contact you with my interest. When reviewing the job description, I was excited to see how well my experience aligns with Decatur's needs and what the position requires. I have worked with a few nonprofits in the past and helped build one focused on ending gun violence in our area. I also have 3 years of financial service experience and have interned with Scott Reuter. From reading the listing on the City of Decatur homepage, I feel your core mission and culture suit what I offer as I have already previously ran a campaign for a potential seat on this council in this last election that was solely focused on developing plans to elevate Decatur and protect our future.

As an active member in Decatur's fight for safer streets and an active member in Decatur's efforts to become stable well into the future, I feel I can easily fill the seat for the City Councilman position. Further, I am a recognized expert in communication. My previous roles (Leading a nonprofit) have strengthened my capabilities in motivation and teamwork, including a keen attention to detail and accuracy. I wish to bring these skills to the Council and work to put Decatur back on track for success.

I am excited at the prospect of bringing my talents to City of Decatur. I look forward to hearing from you, at your earliest convenience, to discuss how my experience and qualifications will prove valuable in the City Councilman role.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will consider me for this grand opportunity to work with my hometown.

Sincerely,
Elijah England

Elijah England

SUMMARY

I am resourceful and meticulous with almost 5 years of experience in inventory control, sales, staff training and development. I am a customer-oriented team builder with expertise generating optimal success. I am a results-driven and adaptable leader.

EDUCATION

Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant OK

- Studied Political Science and Business here for two years
- Top ten percent of my freshmen class

Millikin University, Decatur, IL

- Will graduate from Millikin with a bachelor's degree in Political Science in December, 2021.
- Inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha my sophomore year.
- Participated in Model Illinois Government and Model United Nations to grow my understanding of local and international law.
- Won best journalist at the Model Illinois Government convention in February, 2021.
- Dean's list.

EXPERIENCE

Building nonprofits (at least 2 years of experience)

Community activism (2-4 years)

Member Service Representative, ADM Credit Union, June 2021-Present, Decatur, IL (**CURRENT POSITION**)

- Creating members accounts.
- Providing loan services.
- Filing all paperwork.
- Answering the phones.
- All member transactions.
- Closing accounts.
- Wire transfers.

Member Service Representative, Staley Credit Union, March 2019-August 2020
Decatur, IL

- Updating accounts to make sure that all information presented is accurate on file.
- Processing loan payments for members so that their loan payments are accurate and on time.
- Specialized in money management and helping members achieve the best outcome for their income and cash flow.

- Closed and helped open new accounts accurately and helped accounting with filing fraud forms for our members.
- Filed paperwork for loan officers and worked to accurately represent our members best interests.

Manager, Whataburger, May 2017-January 2019

Durant, OK

- Supervised a staff of 8-10 in daily operations.
- Analyzed product cost, labor, and all shipment details.
- Managed employee direct reports, including completion of recruiting and hiring processes.
- Boosted cash flow % by creating a positive atmosphere for customers and team members.
- Supervised and trained all of the customer service team members on my shift to provide exceptional service throughout the entire experience.
- Oversaw store opening and closing, including reconciling cash drawers and making bank deposits.
- Supervised, developed and delegated tasks to employees.
- Recruited, hired and trained new employees, including monitoring and review of individual performance.

References:



Kim Lewis, City Clerk
City of Decatur
One Gary K. Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL 62523

July 23, 2021

In Re: Application for Vacant City Council Position

Dear Clerk Lewis:

I write this letter to express my interest in filling the vacancy on the Decatur City Council which has opened up by the resignation of Councilman Rodney Walker on July 20, 2021. I want to serve my fellow residents of our great hometown, the City of Decatur.

I believe I have sufficient qualifications for the following reasons:

— I am a 'hometown boy': I was born (on [REDACTED]) at the Decatur and Macon County Hospital (now DMH) of local lawyer, Robert D. Owen, and his wife, Mary. I attended Dennis Grade School, Woodrow Wilson Jr. High, and Douglas MacArthur High School, graduating in 1970. I grew up in Decatur's 'West End'; and, after I moved back to

Decatur to practice law, I have returned to the West End as well. As a life-long 'local', I have seen Decatur in its best, and most challenging, times. I firmly believe that Decatur remains a wonderful, livable town with a vibrant future.

— I am a retired professional. I received my J.D. (cum laude) from the University of Michigan Law School in 1980. After two years practicing in Phoenix, Arizona, I returned to Decatur to join my father's law firm. After his death, I continued my practice here in Decatur for another 25 years, retiring in 2014.

— I have experience serving on governmental boards, having been repeatedly elected to the Macon County Board (1990-2000) and appointed to the Macon County Mental Health Board (1986-1990 & 2002-2014). On those boards I was involved in numerous financial and policy planning decisions, often as Board Chairman or President.

— Through my political experience and general law practice, I have interacted with numerous members of Decatur's various communities of all races, religions, and economic status. I believe I understand the issues and needs of this town.

I envision Decatur as a substantially untapped resource for the state, nation, and world at large. Our infrastructure, both physical and human-resource, is primed for large- and small-scale manufacturing and product development. Our cost of living — especially housing — is very low by national standards. And our recreational

resources are top grade. As a retiree, I see this town as a perfect 'retirement community', with a wonderful 'four season' climate, cultural activities, fine healthcare, and plenty to do. For our younger citizens, we must support their efforts to develop a Decatur 'in their image'. In that light, I think that the past goals of a 100,000+ population manufacturing/business center may no longer be appropriate, and a smaller, more service-driven economy might be a better fit and goal. In other words, make Decatur a place people want to live, rather than a town they live in to be near the jobs that attracted them to the area.

Thank you for presenting my interest to the Mayor and the Council.

Very truly yours,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Robert M. Owen.

Robert M. Owen

Stephen M. Payton _____

August 2, 2021

Ms. Julie Wolfe Moore, Mayor
Mr. Ed Culp, Councilman
Mr. Bill Faber, Councilman
Ms. Lisa Gregory, Councilwoman
Mr. David Horn, Councilman
Mr. Chuck Kuhle, Councilman

Dear Council Members:

I would like to put my name in for consideration for the recently opened Council seat vacated by Mr. Rodney Walker. I was born and reared in Decatur, Illinois, only leaving for a brief period to pursue higher education. I returned here to go into Public Accounting after obtaining my degree from Illinois State University. I spent 42 years working for the same Decatur firm or its successor as a Certified Public Accountant. I feel my 42 years in Decatur gives me the skills to understand the common residents' position on most issues. I have enclosed a copy of the résumé I prepared for the State Auditor General's office in 2012. I am currently retired.

As a life-long resident of Decatur, I have many dreams I would like to see happen in the City; I don't see this Council opening as a means to accomplish them. I see the primary job of the Council as working to make sure Decatur's residents have water, sewer, roads, and a safe environment in which to live and work. I hope that if you select me to fill this position that I will have some opportunity to further some of my dreams for the City through collective effort and shared governance. During my years in Public Accounting, I spent annually 1,000s hours at some of our firm's State Auditor General agency jobs where it was necessary for me to learn the rules and regulations of the various programs administered by them. I believe this background provides me with a unique set of skills applicable to a thorough understanding of both budgetary and regulatory issues toward the furtherance of our City's governance.

For the past several years, I have faithfully followed City Council meetings on public access television. I am, therefore, familiar with the public functioning of the Council and am familiar with the various topics and issues undertaken for its deliberation.

Thank you for your kind consideration of my candidacy for this City Council opening. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely submitted,

/s/ Stephen M. Payton

Stephen M. Payton

STEPHEN M PAYTON

Senior Manager

Length of Experience: 37 years

Age: 59

Mr. Payton has 37 years' experience in audits of State agencies and not-for-profit organizations. Mr. Payton has 37 years of OAG Compliance and Financial Audit experience including 27 years as First Assistant in level 4, 3 and 2 agencies with multiple federal grants and sub grant monitoring requirements. Mr. Payton has served as Audit Leader on single audits performed for the Illinois Office of Education including supervision, field work and contact with federal cognizant agencies. Mr. Payton has worked on audits of the Macon Piatt Counties Regional Office of Education No. 39, Iroquis Kankakee County Regional Office of Education No. 32, the Clark Coles Cumberland Douglas Edgar Moultrie Counties Regional Office of Education No. 11 and Ford County Regional Office of Education No. 9. He has served as Audit leader for the audits of the Decatur Housing Authority covering the years 1981 to 1989 with similar responsibilities. His responsibilities on OAG single audit engagements included supervision, review of internal controls, contact with cognizant agency personnel, audit field work, development of findings and recommendations and review of internal audit and sub recipient monitoring related to the federal financial assistance portions of the audits. Mr. Payton has supervised the information systems sections of our OAG audits for several years and performed IS reviews of the Office of the Secretary of State, Department of Children and Family Service, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Lottery.

The following is a summary of other educational and pertinent experience for Mr. Payton:

EDUCATION Illinois State University at Normal, B.A. in Accountancy, 1974

CPA Certification, Illinois, 1976

Certified Information Systems Auditor Certification, 1999

Certified Information Technology Professional Certification, 2006

STATE AUDIT Office of the Secretary of State, 6/30/2010, 6/30/2009, 6/30/2008, 6/30/2007 & 6/30/2006.

EXPERIENCE Office of the Secretary of State, 6/30/2009 & 6/30/2007 (IS Review)

Office of the Comptroller 6/30/2010, 6/30/2004, 6/30/2003, 6/30/2002, 6/30/2001 & 6/30/2000

Department of Children & Family Service 6/30/2010, 6/30/2008, 6/30/2007, 6/30/2006 & 6/30/2005

Department of Children & Family Service 6/30/2009 & 6/30/2008 (IS Review)

Illinois Department of Agriculture, 6/30/2003, 6/30/2001 & 6/30/1999

Illinois Department of Agriculture, 6/30/2003 (IS Review)

Illinois State Fair 6/30/2003, 6/30/2002, 6/30/2001, 6/30/2000 & 6/30/1999 (agreed upon procedures)

Duquoin State Fair 6/30/2003, 6/30/2002, 6/30/2001, 6/30/2000 & 6/30/1999 (agreed upon procedures)

Illinois Emergency Management Agency 6/30/1999, 6/30/1997, 6/30/1995, 6/30/1993

Department of Natural Resources, 6/30/2000, 6/30/1998, 6/30/1996, 6/30/1994 & 6/30/1992

Department of Natural Resources 6/30/1996 (IS Review)

Department of the Lottery, 6/30/1997, 6/30/1995, 6/30/1993, 6/30/1991 & 6/30/1989

Department of the Lottery 6/30/1997 (IS Review)

EARLIER

Department of Public Health

Adolf Meyer Zone Center

Environmental Protection Agency

Vandalia Correctional Center

McFarland Zone Center

Department of Corrections – Central Office Divisions

Department of Corrections – Juvenile Field Services

Department of Corrections – Adult Parole Services

Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

PROFESSIONAL

Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants,

AND CIVIC

Illinois CPA Society,

Information Systems Audit & Control Association,

Lincoln Square Theatre Board of Directors

ACTIVITIES

Terrence "TAT" Taylor

July 26, 2021

Decatur City Council

Kim Althoff
City of Decatur
1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL 62523

Dear City of Decatur,

I live to give, serve, and contribute as best as I can. It's been the foundation and motto of my life and professional career thus far. I have years and thousands of hours of volunteer service, I'm extremely active in our community as a seasoned Radio Broadcaster, Essential Skills Facilitator, an Illinois Public Health Association Healing Ambassador, Community Engagement/Outreach consultant, as well as being a certified PLTI trained facilitator. Serving on several executive boards and committees, those being the Vice President on the Decatur Family YMCA board, the Boys & Girls Club of Decatur, and the Ronald McDonald House of Central Illinois. I've proven success in community involvement and community engagement through my expertise in mass communications, and multi-media marketing. My work in communication spans well over a decade. I am extremely dedicated to bettering our city, community and it's resides. While also promoting racial equity, diversity, inclusion, and representation in all that I do. I thoroughly enjoy collaborating, cultivating, and building relationships. I believe teamwork, makes the dream work and only together we can make a real, long-lasting difference and positive, profitable impact for our city's future.

I would bring to the Decatur City Council a broad range of comprehensive impactful attributes including but not limited to:

- **Advance communication/media skills**
- **Adaptability**
- **Community Engagement expertise**
- **Conflict resolution skills**

As a skilled professional with a background in communications, community leadership and social justice advocacy, with community outreach being a core fundamental of mine I am confident I will prove a great asset to the great City of Decatur, my home, born, raised, and made to lead and with that I respectfully submit my application for your review. I am looking forward to assisting the Decatur City Council in meeting and surpassing our goals, and the needs of the community we serve through education, innovation, communication, advocacy, and empowerment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Terrence "TAT" Taylor

Terrence A. Taylor

TAT

Objective

To fully utilize my proficient community engagement, multi-media, and mass communication skills, talents, and abilities. To connect, correct, educate, direct, and empower our community and help lead us into the future.

Experience

Apex Clean Energy

2021 to present

Contracted Public Engagement Organizer for Apex Clean Energy. I help assist with public support-building for several campaigns for renewable energy projects including the Racehorse Flats Wind in here in Macon County. In this role, I work with local project supporters, landowners, community organizations, key stakeholders, and elected officials to promote the financial, health, and economic benefits that these projects will provide to local host communities. I report directly to the Public Affairs Manager in the area, and work with the associated Project Developer and land agents as needed.

Richland Community College

2019 to present

As an Essential Skills Facilitator, I help enhance or in some cases construct participants' soft skills by using methodical lectures, demonstrations, discussion groups, seminars, case studies, field assignments, and independent or group projects. I conduct coaching sessions with leaders and students to develop their skills supporting the mission, vision, and core values of the institution.

Neuhoff Media

2003 to present

As an on-air talent, I provide creative, entertaining, and engaging on-air and online content while executing the station format. Work with management to achieve a strategic community impact in the Greater Decatur market. Establish relationships with community leaders/influencers to establish and grow the station's community image as well as the TAT brand. Ensuring promotions and contests are executed properly.

The Community Foundation of Macon

2020 to 2021

As the Director of Community Investment, it was my job to make sure our community's needs were being met, gaps were being filled and barriers were being alleviated. I made sure grant funding was allocated to those underserved and overlooked organizations and programs making a direct impact within the community.

Decatur Public School District 61

2015 to 2019

The district's new emphasis on a more trauma-informed approach and trauma-specific intervention training has helped me in achieving my goals and duties as a "Family Support/Student Intervention Coordinator". My duties consist of relationship building



amongst the students, their families, and staff. While making sure to connect the families who are in need, of services to the many different resources that our community provides. Under 'Student Services' we've adopted the "whole child approach" to education by practices, relationships that ensure each child, in each school, is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.

Education

Richland Community College

2020 to Present

Pursing my associate degree in African American Studies

MacArthur High School

2001 to 2004

Received my High School Diploma

Skills/Certifications

I'm a certified Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor, a certified appointed Illinois Healing Ambassador through the Illinois Public Health Association, as well as a certified Starr Commonwealth trauma and resilience trained facilitator. I've received restorative practice training within the Decatur Public School District 61 through the "International Institute for Restorative Practices". I'm also a Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) facilitator through the National Parent Leadership Institute (NPLI). Excellent in public speaking as exemplified by 17+ years in radio broadcasting and community engagement practices, on top of being proficient with relationship building, time-management, social media marketing, and Microsoft Office.

DEREK WALLACE

Address · Phone

·  · [LinkedIn Profile](#) · [Twitter/Blog/Portfolio](#)

EXPERIENCE

2003 – 2005

ENGINEER, ENERGY MAINTENANCE OF DECATUR

Working on live and active steam/water leaks, as well as chemical/acid leaks throughout the Midwest processing plants. Including; Tate & Lyle, ADM, Terra, Firestone, etc.

2005 – 2007

LABTECH, TATE&LYLE

Fermentation/Downstream of 10,000l pilot plant

2007 -2013

ELECTRICIAN, 4MC CORP.

Foreman/Journeyman Sign electrician. Active duties include; assuring the job is done correctly while managing 10+ employees.

2013-2017

BENDSEN SIGNS AND GRAPHICS

Journeyman Sign Electrician

2017-2021

ENTREPRENEUR

Trader/Teacher

EDUCATION

07/2002

HORTICULTURE, RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AA

SKILLS

- CDL
- Micro Management skills
- Artist
- Electrical
- Community

ACTIVITIES

Passion for animals, and building communities!

Chelsea Ray Walters

July 27, 2021

Kim Althoff

To whom it may concern,

My name is Chelsea Ray Walters, and I am a senior at Millikin University. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy, Political Science, and Criminal Justice and my projected graduation date is December 2021. After hearing of the sudden resignation of Rodney Walker, I decided to apply for the vacant city council seat in hopes of making positive changes in the community while working for the city of Decatur and increasing my knowledge and experience in the empowerment of children, youth, and adults. My knowledge in Criminal Justice and Philosophy, working alongside Dr. Robert Money and Dr. Keyria Rodgers, being a co-leader for Sherrod's Independent Mentoring Program, Inc. a Macon County CASA Advocate, and my other professional experiences make me an excellent candidate for this position.

As you will see from the enclosed resume, I have more than three years of experience in the field of customer service and leadership. My resume shows that I have been consistently rewarded for hard work with awards, better opportunities, and increased responsibilities. These rewards are a direct result of my expertise in communication and leadership. My commitment to personal and professional experience coupled with my excellent written and oral communication skills will serve me well as I pursue the position of a city council member. I am determined to make positive changes to Decatur, Illinois, and I know there needs to be a young person willing to have a positive impact on the community.

As previously stated, communication is a skill where I excel. Some of my biggest goals would be to bring the community together by contacting the proper people to expand community gardens, bring more stores to areas where businesses are closing, form a positive bond between police and citizens, bring more talk groups to high schools, and increase restorative justice programs. There needs to be more people willing to inspire our youth and prevent recidivism.

If you have questions, or if you want to schedule an interview, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] look forward to meeting you to further discuss employment opportunities for this position.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Ray Walters
Enclosure

- Chelsea Ray Walters

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Education

Millikin University

January 2018-December 2021

- Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy, Political Science, and Criminal Justice
- Concentration: Pre-Law

Warrensburg-Latham High School

May 15, 2016

- High School Diploma

Leadership Positions and Honors

MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY DECATUR, IL

Department of Arts and Sciences

Dean's List

August 2018- Present

Dr. Sherrod's Independent Mentoring Grant Reentry Program Co-Leader

March 2021-Present

- Assist team members in conducting workshops.
- Track the members of the workshop's attendance.
- Type monthly minutes and reports.
- Conduct meetings and teach the members of the workshop.
- Adding information to the Grant.

Multicultural Student Council, President

August 2019-May 2021

- provided leadership and direction to the organization, and communicated with other multicultural organizations
- presided at meetings of the club and oversaw the activities of the executive committee
- coordinated club activities through the executive committee and board of directors
- approved all club communications

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email:

Phone number:

- worked with other team members to execute the senior desserts event that took place at the end of each semester

Model Illinois Government, Attorney General

February 2020-February
2021

- assisted in the operation of Model Illinois Government
- worked through rules for the simulation to help the upcoming delegates
- helped students that are new to MIG with their assignments
- communicated with advisors from other colleges, so they were up to date with Model Illinois Government policies

Millikin University, MU LEADS

May 2, 2018

- awarded for women empowerment speech.

Decatur, IL

Macon County CASA Advocate

November 2020-Present

- speak to a child in the foster system every two weeks
- communicate with the child's parents to make sure they are taking care of their responsibilities
- give toys to my CASA child for their birthday and Christmas
- write notes in the CASA database system, so caseworkers and other team members know how my CASA child is doing
- Call the Department of Child and Family Services workers to give them information regarding my CASA child.

Decatur, IL

Campaign manager for Elijah England

December 2020- March
2021

- coordinated Mr. England's campaign

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email:

Phone number:

- advertised Mr. England's goals to the public
- spoke to the community about Mr. England's plans for Decatur City Council
- listened to what the public wanted, and relayed those messages to Mr. England

RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DECATUR, IL

Youth Leadership Institute Program

July 2014 -March 2015

- attended several businesses and stakeholders around the county to learn different types of leadership and how to be involved with the community
- connected the concepts I learned to a final project that was presented at graduation

WARRENSBURG-LATHAM HIGH SCHOOL, DECATUR, IL

National Honor Society

April 2014-April 2016

- volunteered around the community to receive community service hours
- collected cans of food for our school's food drive
- assisted the Red Cross with our school's yearly blood drive
- nominated Vice President of the National Honor Society senior year

President of Spanish Club

August 2015- May 2016

- Award for academic standing in class

Cheerleader

August 2012-May 2016

- Cheerleading Captain
- Received Coaches Award
- Received Most Dedicated Award

August 2015-May 2015

Other Honors

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number [REDACTED]

- Received Business and Computers Award April 2014
- Received Physical Education Award April 2012, April 2014
- Made Honor Roll August 2012-May 2016

Professional Employment

CVS PHARMACY DECATUR, IL

August 2018-April 2020

Shift Supervisor

January 2019-April 2020

- applied security, safety and loss prevention strategies during shifts
- helped store management meet standards of service and quality in daily operations
- evaluated employee skills and knowledge regularly, providing hands-on training and mentoring to individuals with lagging skills
- completed store opening and closing procedures, including setting up registers and checking products
- conducted hourly inspections to evaluate operational activities and implement timely resolutions for diverse concerns
- established effective employee schedules and delegated tasks to take advantage of individual abilities and meet expected demands
- documented daily production and materials usage in store system to track data for the pharmacist's review
- collaborated with internal teams to streamline operations across materials handling, production and shipping
- responded to and resolved customer questions and concerns

Pharmacy Technician

February 2019-April 2020

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email:

Phone number:

- consulted with insurance company representatives to complete claims processing, resolve concerns and reconcile payments
- set up and modified patient profiles in CVS Pharmacy's computer system to include current information such as medications and insurance details
- restocked pharmacy shelves with current merchandise to drive consistent peripheral sales
- helped pharmacist clear problematic prescriptions and address customer questions to keep pharmacy efficient
- resolved non-routine issues like third party billing, computer system and customer service issues
- coordinated verification and filling of more than 30 daily prescriptions in high-volume pharmacy environment
- calculated dosage filled prescriptions and prepared prescription labels with absolute accuracy
- solved customer problems in-person or over telephone by aiding with placing orders, navigating systems and locating items

SUBWAY, DECATUR IL

March-July 2018

Cashier

- took customer's orders
- made sandwiches for customers
- disinfected the entire store
- counted the register drawers
- executed proper closing procedures

DOLLAR GENERAL

February-May 2017

Cashier

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email:

Phone number

- helped customers complete purchases, locate items and join reward programs to promote loyalty, satisfaction and sales numbers
- restocked, arranged and organized merchandise in front lanes to drive product sales
- reviewed and resolved differences between accounting information and cash drawer
- checked identification for proof-of-age and refusing alcohol and tobacco sales to underage customers
- processed POS transactions, including checks, cash and credit purchases or refunds
- counted cash in register drawer at beginning and end of shift
- answered questions about store policies and concerns to support positive customer experiences
- assisted over 50 customers in person and over 15 calls each day

CONVEY HEALTH SOLUTIONS, DECATUR, IL

August-November 2016

Sales Call Representative

- set up appointments with interested customers according to schedule availability
- provided information about available products and services including membership details and purchase advantages
- overcame objections using friendly, persuasive strategies
- opened new accounts and documented personal, demographic and payment information in system
- delivered scripted sales talks to customers reached via manual and automatic dialing systems
- established excellent sales ability and strong interpersonal skills with confident and persuasive approach

Chelsea Ray Walters

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number [REDACTED]

- **maintained excellent attendance record, consistently arriving to work on time**
- **managed over 50 customer calls each day**

Althoff, Kim L

From: marty watkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 7:12 PM
To: Althoff, Kim L
Subject: vacant Council position

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Marty Watkins
[REDACTED]

Kim Althoff, City Clerk
City of Decatur
1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL 62523

July 21, 2021

Ref: Vacant Council Position.

City Council Members, Mayor, City Manager.

My name is Marty Watkins. I am 59 years old, a retired Army Veteran and a life-long resident of Decatur. I am applying for the Decatur City Council seat vacated by Councilman Rodney Walker.

Although I have never held an elected office, I am currently on the following board of directions:

The Golden K. Kiwanis of Decatur, The Decatur Day Care, The Community Investment Corporation of Decatur (C.I.C.D.), The Decatur Macon County Opportunity Corporation (D.M.C.O.C) which has been rebranded Empowerment Opportunity Center and 2 Commissions in the Decatur Community.

I have also been appointed to the City of Decatur Human Relations Commissions and The Macon County Ethics Commission. While serving in these capacities I have gained experience with voting procedures, with strategic and financial planning as well as reviewing budgets and financial reports.

I have also received the certification of completion from The Community Foundation of Macon County for the 3 day Board Governance Training Course dated November 19, 2020. I truly believe that my passion and my participation of the boards and commissions qualifies me to join forces with the current City Council to help Decatur thrive.

I feel that I would be a good fit to represent the residents of Decatur due to the results of the last City Council Election. I also have the capabilities to work with our current City Council to help support investments in our community and create a sense of pride for those who are wanting to work, live, and invest in our community. I have always believed in community safety and the support of our first responders.

I believe that our citizens and our law enforcement should work together to help solve crimes as well as the prevention of crimes. I believe that my being active in the community would bring additional transparency for our City Council.

My visions for the City of Decatur include the following:

to continue to help provide a safer community, to continue to support our first responders, to help the continuation of improved infrastructure and to help carry out the strategic planning that has been implemented by the current council, to continue to support our Economic Development Center, which is the key component to our city's development, to work with the community, city officials, first responders, businesses help address the needs of the community and to make our community a place where people would want to live, work and invest.

I believe in the City of Decatur and its residents. Decatur is home. It is a wonderful city and I would be honored to serve the people as a City Councilman.

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