

Application for Appointment

Submitted on: 08/13/2019 08:13:04 AM

Completion time: 10 min. 38 sec.

Please Provide Information for your Home/Legal Residence

Q. First Name

R. James

Q. Last Name

R. Hock

Q. City

R. White Lake

Q. Oakland County Resident:

R. Yes

Q. Length of Residency

R. 31

Party Affiliation

Q. What is your party affiliation?

R. none

Education

Q. High School Name or GED

R. Rochester Adams

Q. City/State

R. Rochester, MI

Q. College/Technical

R. Hillsdale/Oakland University

Q. City/State

R. Hillsdale/Rochester, MI

Q. Degree(s) received

R. BS/MPA

Employment

Q. Employer

R. City of Joliet

Q. Position Title
R. City Manager

Q. Dates of Employment
R. Nov, 2013-May, 2017

Q. Duties
R. Chief administrative officer

References

Q. Contact #1

R. If considered for this position, I will provide not just professional references but references from both the business community and civic organizations to verify that I am not just approachable but make the extra effort to reach out to those groups and their interests to assure that the City is listening to their needs and concerns.

Q. Contact #2
R.

Q. Contact #3
R.

Please answer the following five questions in 500 words or less:

Q. What is your vision for the future of Oakland County?

R. Maintain the "sense of community" that makes Oakland County the most desired location in the State of Michigan. Why do people live here versus other counties in our area? All Counties provide public services but it is the cultural activities, natural resources and recreational facilities that set one above the other. Oakland County provides all of these at a level superior to other counties but residents and prospective business owners need to be reminded of those quality of life concerns and it always needs to be communicated on a regular basis.

Q. What are your professional qualifications?

R. I have over 39 years of local government experience in Michigan and Illinois, most recently in the City of Joliet, the largest City in Illinois with the Council/City Manager form of government with 150,000 residents. As a professional government administrator, I cannot affiliate with any political party so I remain impartial in the recommendations that come from the office of City Manager to the body of elected officials. I retired 2 years ago and I am only interested in temporary governmental assignments. I would never run for elected office or become politically active. I am quick to perceive organizational strengths and weaknesses and make necessary changes to improve the quality of services of the County.

Q. Do you have background working with complex budgeting? If so, briefly explain.

R. I have prepared and presented City budgets in the hundreds of millions of dollars. In 2017, the City of Joliet had a \$281M budget with almost \$100M of that for Capital Improvement.

Q. Describe your involvement with national, state, and local civic organizations, especially working with other leaders.

R. My leadership role as a City Manager or Assistant City Manager required that I speak with local business and civic organizations, to provide information and develop relationships that foster

community involvement and increased participation in programs and services. Joliet was the County seat for Will County, with their offices located in the downtown, and I worked closely with their elected County Executive and Commissioners on many projects and programs of mutual concern. Joliet and other communities I have worked in regularly communicated with State and federal officials addressing issues affecting the resident of those communities.

Q. What do you think is the largest problem facing Oakland County today?

R. Oakland County enjoys a low effective tax rate while providing excellent services. There are always competing issues vying for the same tax dollar, and the Executives Office along with the Board of Commissioners need to stay on top of State and local concerns, evaluate results and provide continued funding for those successful projects and programs with the limited revenues available. Residents expect the County to provide the infrastructure and high service level they demand (and take for granted). It is a difficult balancing act, but one that is expected by the voters.

Q. Applicant's Signature

R. James D. Hock

Q. Date:

R. 08/13/2019

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