

## Town of Apex Council Member Application

*Filling Vacant Seat through December 2013*

Due to the recent resignation of Councilman Mike Jones, an Apex Town Council seat is currently vacant. The vacancy will be filled through an open process in which interested citizens can submit an application for the Council's review. The final candidate will be appointed by the Council to serve the remainder of term through December 2013. Candidates must be at least 21 year of age, live within the Apex town limits and be registered to vote.

Serving on the Council requires time and dedication, meeting twice each month in addition to work sessions and other special projects.

The Town of Apex operates under the Council-Manager form of government, in which the citizens elect a Mayor and Council members (the Council) as the Town's governing body. The Council represents Apex residents and works to establish policies that are responsive to residents' needs and wishes, and that affect the overall operation of the community as a whole. For more information about Apex's form of government, and sitting Council members, visit [www.apexnc.org/elected-officials](http://www.apexnc.org/elected-officials).

By checking this box, I consent to the posting of this application on the Town of Apex public website. I understand that all applicants for the Council seat who agree to have their application made public will have it posted on September 20th at noon, following the September 19th application submission deadline.

### Contact Information

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First Name: Lawrence Middle Initial: E Last Name: Gerst

Street Address: 1008 Scotts Ridge Trail; Apex, NC 27502-6880

Phone (Home): (919) 622—9943 Phone (Alternate): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: [Lgerst718@hotmail.com](mailto:Lgerst718@hotmail.com)

How long have you lived in the town limits of Apex? I have lived in Apex off and on since 1994; most recently, 3 months

### Occupation & Education

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Occupation: I am an accountant and attorney by education and experience

Place of Employment: Actively seeking employment

Education: Bachelor of Science in Radio-Television-Film, University of Texas at Austin (1975); Master's in Professional Accounting, University of Texas at Austin (1983); Juris Doctor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1989)

Other Distinctions: Licensed attorney, State Bar of North Carolina

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### Local Government Experience & Civic Engagement

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- Please describe any previous experience in local government (employment with municipality, service on elected board, service on appointed committees). Be sure to include the Town in which you served, and your role there. *I was employed by the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety between 1999 and 2007. I served in the roles of Governmental Accounts Auditor and Departmental Internal Auditor.*
- Please list involvement in other civic groups or other relevant organizations. *When I lived in Harrisonburg, Virginia (the place from which I moved in June of 2011), I served as a board member of the Arts Council of the Valley, an organization which, as its name implies, exists to promote the Arts in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*

### Other Information

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- Describe why you want to serve as a Town of Apex Town Council member. *I would love to use my talents and abilities to serve Apex in this role. I want to help keep Apex a delightful, safe, family-friendly town for many years into the future. I feel I have the maturity, training, judgment and experience to help Apex navigate several important decisions it faces in the coming years.*
- Describe your perspective on issues you believe the Town is currently facing and what ideas you have for dealing with those issues. *Two among the issues Apex faces in the coming years are 1. **Growth** and 2. **Attraction and retention of businesses**. Apex can and should grow, but it should do so in a considered, planned, orderly manner, one that maintains the quality of life that Apex is known for. Businesses should be courted to Apex via reasonable incentives. In a competitive environment, Apex should not take itself out of the game and lose opportunities to other towns because it was not willing to offer incentives. But those incentives should not "break the bank".*
- Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than a minor traffic infraction/violation)?  
*No*

### Timeline for Filling Vacancy

Please complete fully and submit to Town Clerk Georgia Evangelist via email at [georgia.evangelist@apexnc.org](mailto:georgia.evangelist@apexnc.org) by 5pm on Monday, September 19, 2011.

Council will review applications and consider an appointment at the October 4th regular meeting. The new Council member may be sworn into office as early as the following regular meeting.

Direct all questions about the submittal process in writing to Town Manager, Bruce Radford at [bruce.radford@apexnc.org](mailto:bruce.radford@apexnc.org).

