

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.

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

First Name: Christopher Middle Initial: J Last Name: Putnam

Street Address: 103 Shady Ridge Ct, Apex, NC 27502

Phone (Home): (919) 303-8821 Phone (Alternate): (919) 610-9573

Email: cputnam@nc.rr.com

How long have you lived in the town limits of Apex? 12 years

Occupation & Education

Occupation: S/W Project Manager, Systems Analyst/Software Engineer

Place of Employment: Genworth Financial

Education: BS in Computer Engineering from NCSU, 1989; Greene Central HS (diploma), 1984

Other Distinctions: In addition to Husband, Father of 2 and Citizen of Apex, NC, I am an Ordained Deacon of Apex Baptist Church, currently serving as recording secretary

Local Government Experience & Civic Engagement

- 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.

Candidly, my experience so far in life has been limited to the private sector (22 years) and local church leadership. However I hope you'll still consider my experience and willingness to serve.

- Please list involvement in other civic groups or other relevant organizations.
 - Serving (currently and for a total of 4 years) as Deacon at Apex Baptist Church in downtown Apex.
 - Beginning my 3rd year as recording secretary for the Apex Baptist Board of Deacons
 - 2 years as Committee Chair for the church scholarship committee responsible for ensuring applications are reviewed, approved upon meeting conditions and funds distributed accordingly
 - Active in education in church having served as Life Group leader (teacher and coordinator) for 10+ years for married adult classes, single adult classes and currently 3rd graders
 - Various other services at church including speaking at halftime during Upward Basketball games, community service, and mission projects

Other Information

- Describe why you want to serve as a Town of Apex Town Council member.

I have for some time wanted to serve our town in some capacity. My interest is nurtured by both a sense of duty that citizens be involved in the process of government as well as my history both working and living in the Apex area. Even knowing that I'd face some challenges with name recognition, I'd even considered running for council in the current election, but my father's declining health (and subsequent passing) led me to prayerfully decide that a full election effort was not prudent. I was quite excited to learn that I could still be chosen for an opportunity to serve.

My first job out of college was on North Salem St. in Apex for a small business being grown in one of those beautiful historic homes. Later in life, my wife and I chose Apex as the town to build a home together in the Scott's Mill subdivision where we've lived for 11 years. We now have two school-aged children attending Olive Chapel and are thrilled with the quality of both community and schools in the Apex area to be raising them.

Such an important opening as a mid-election council seat needs to be filled by someone that will dedicate themselves to the task, is able to absorb and process information quickly, can provide life-wisdom, problem-solving and collaboration skills and can manage the opportunities for growth and direction along with the established, elected council members and other town staff. I can offer these abilities and believe I would make an excellent choice for council member.

- Describe your perspective on issues you believe the Town is currently facing and what ideas you have for dealing with those issues.

I've witnessed the many changes in Apex during the past times of explosive growth and even now during more financially trying circumstances. Both climates have proved challenging to the citizens of Apex; however, I'm positive on our town's future and am not coming in with an agenda or disappointed with the track we're on. The NC-540 road project being built adjacent to my neighborhood reminds me daily of Apex's future that carries challenges of change, but opportunities for the future.

Both in my church and with my employer, we've seen the economic turn of the past few years lead to tough decisions for how increasingly limited finances are distributed as the ability to carry benefits and personnel previously considered essential has been eroded. In a diverse (age, socio-economic and cultural) population such as in Apex, there will be differences of opinion on what priorities are the most crucial. Fiscal discernment and compassionate understanding do not have to be mutually exclusive, and I can bring both to bear as Apex faces similar decisions. Moreover, I believe that fiscal responsibility and self-imposed restraint is a healthy exercise even when finances are not as restricted, particularly when those funds are contributed at the expense of others in trust and hope for their judicial use.

As we'll see the economy start to improve and the council works with developers to bring abandoned rows of plumbing stubs to life as completed subdivisions, again we'll begin to face decisions about managing growth: working with regional leaders on school and private construction projects, infrastructure expansion and improvement and providing public amenities such as green spaces for our citizens. Capable leadership will keep Apex an excellent choice for current and prospective citizens as well as attracting a balance of businesses that will employ and serve those citizens. The efforts to preserve the small-town feel of Apex while our community becomes host to more residents and businesses will continue.

- 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 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.