

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: Chad Middle Initial: D. Last Name: Ward

Street Address: 1012 Camberley Dr.

Phone (Home): 919-303-5453 Phone (Alternate): _____

Email: chad@chadwrites.com

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

Occupation & Education

Occupation: Writer; former governmental affairs & public relations consultant

Place of Employment: Self employed

Education: BA in English/BA in Comparative Literature, University of Georgia

Named to Chicago Tribune Favorite Books of 2008; Slate.com's Top 25 Books of 2008; have appeared on CBS Early Show, NPR, and numerous other television and radio outlets

Other Distinctions: (not that that's impressive in and of itself, but it should indicate that I'm not afraid of

public speaking).

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.

While I have never held elective or appointed office, in my twenty years as a governmental affairs/public relations consultant I led legislative or communications efforts on public/private partnerships, public works issues (including controversial highway construction and water system expansion), Superfund sites, ballot initiatives, and economic development projects. Former clients include Learjet, Michelin, 3M, Koch Industries, the City of Wichita, KS, and the Greenville (SC) Water System. I testified before congress on electricity deregulation as head of governmental affairs for a new power company successfully competing in an Oregon pilot project to allow competitive energy sales. I have been communications director for one Lieutenant Governor's race and one mayoral race. While I come from the business and industry side of the equation, I feel that I have a good grasp of local and regional politics and the issues that drive them.

- Please list involvement in other civic groups or other relevant organizations.
N/A

Other Information

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

When my family and I came to Apex five years ago, my wife had just left her position as Executive Vice President with a large insurance company and I had just received my first book deal. We were free to move anywhere in the country we wanted without job or money pressures pushing us in any particular direction. We spent nearly six months researching and visiting places we might want to live. In the end we chose Apex. We enjoy the quality of life. We are close to Raleigh, the beach and the mountains (our daughter is at Appalachian) while living in what still feels like a close knit small town. We spend a good deal of time in downtown Apex just because we appreciate the businesses that have made the downtown come alive, especially in the last two or three years. I would like to serve on the Apex Town Council not only to serve the community we love but also to protect what makes Apex special, to promote growth without damaging the small town feel that differentiates Apex from other communities in the area.

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

The primary issue I see facing the Town of Apex is ensuring that we have the infrastructure in place to support growth. It often feels as though development has run rampant without any thought given to the water, sewer, traffic and power needs that accompany it. I would like to work with the Town Council to

balance the tax base, bringing business and industry to the periphery which would, in turn, help pay for the infrastructure that makes desirable in-fill possible.

I would like to see increased redevelopment of historic downtown, bringing in more retail and restaurants to make downtown a destination place. That might include tax incentives to business that revitalize historic buildings. It would also include a greater promotion of downtown Apex as a destination point for not only Apex residents but those from neighboring communities as well.

I would work to foster even greater cooperation between Apex and Holly Springs and Fuquay Varina to ensure that we are not sucked into the black hole of blandness that is Cary.

While I have much to learn about Apex's development and growth plans, I feel I have much to offer as well, having worked on a number of economic growth plans, public/private partnerships and public works projects in the past.

- 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.