



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Dorothy Ann David, City Manager

DATE: June 7, 2024

SUBJECT: DISTRICT 3 COUNCIL CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS – SS 2024-017

A. Introduction: The purpose of this report is to explain the candidate interview and appointment process to fill the vacancy in the District 3 Council Member office.

B. Recommended Action: The City Council will conduct District 3 Council Member candidate interviews at the June 11, 2024, Study Session. No Council direction is necessary at that meeting. A Council Bill to appoint a new District 3 Council Member will be placed on the June 18, 2024, Regular Meeting agenda.

C. Prior Council Action: On May 21, 2024, Council provided direction to staff to move forward with the appointment process outlined in [Study Session 2024-014](#).

D. Background:

1. Legal Requirements. Daniel Iniguez submitted his resignation from the City Council effective as of May 14, 2024. The resignation creates a vacancy in the District 3 Council Member office. The Illinois Municipal Code requires Council to fill the vacancy within 60 days after the vacancy occurs, which is July 13, 2024. The vacancy is to be filled by appointment to the public office for the balance of the unexpired term, which is May 6, 2025. (65 ILCS 5/5-2-12(g))

The four (4) year term for the Mayor and At Large Council Members began May 2, 2023 and expires May 4, 2027. The next term for newly elected District Council Members is from May 6, 2025 through May 1, 2029. (Sections [2-17](#) and [2-18](#) of the Champaign Municipal Code)

Per state statute, to be eligible to fill the vacancy, qualified applicants must:

- Be an actual resident in Council District 3; (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))
- Be a registered voter in the City of Champaign; (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))
- Be current in payments of taxes/debts owed to the City of Champaign; (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b)) and
- Not have been convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury or other infamous crime. (Art. 13, Sec. 1 of the Ill. Const.)

2. Appointment Process. Council will conduct candidate interviews to fill the vacancy in the District 3 Council Member Office at the June 11 Study Session with the appointment of a new member to take place at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 18.

3. Candidate Applications. The deadline to submit applications for candidates was 12 PM on Monday, June 3, 2024. Attachment A includes copies of the three applications received by the City Clerk. Staff are confirming that they meet the minimum requirements to be eligible to fill the vacancy.

4. Candidate Interview Process. Past practice for candidate interviews to fill the vacancy in a Council Member office is as follows:

- Each candidate is allowed to make a statement of candidacy for up to 5 minutes; and
- Council Members may ask interview questions of the candidates, and each candidate may have up to 5 minutes to answer each question.

5. Procedure for Council Action. A Council Bill is proposed to be placed on the June 18, 2024 Regular Meeting agenda with a blank for the name of the person to be inserted for appointment. At that time, Council Members will suggest names to fill in the blank, and those names will be voted on in order of suggestion. In the past, the Mayor has permitted suggestions in order of Council seniority. When all suggestions have been made, the Council votes in order of suggestion. The first name to receive five or more votes will be inserted into the blank. The Council Bill will then be voted upon. If the Council passes the Council Bill and the candidate is present at the meeting, then they can be sworn in immediately after the appointment and participate in the meeting as the District 3 representative.

E. Community Input: Staff issued a press release on May 22, 2024, which advertised the process to apply to fill the vacancy. Applications for candidates were posted on the [City website](#) with a deadline to submit them to the City Clerk by noon on June 3, 2024. There will be opportunities for public input during the June 11 Study Session when the candidates are interviewed. There will be an additional opportunity for public comment at the Regular Meeting when Council appoints the new Council Member.

F. Budget Impact: City Council members are paid an annual salary of \$5,000. This expense is budgeted in the Mayor and Council budget in the General Operating Fund. As the full cost of Mayor and Council salaries are already included in the budget, there is no impact on the budget from the appointment of a new District 3 Council representative.

G. Staffing Impact: Staff from the Communications Division posted notices of the vacancy and applications to fill the vacancy. The City Clerk and the City Attorney processed the applications and prepared the Reports to Council accordingly.

Prepared by:

Thomas Yu
City Attorney

Attachment A: Applications

**** Applications must be received by Noon, 12:00 p.m., on June 3, 2024 via:**

- (1) Email to the City of Champaign Clerk, at cityclerk@champaignil.gov with the subject line of "Application for District 3 Council Member"; or
- (2) Physical delivery to the City Clerk at 102 N. Neil St., Champaign, IL 61820.

**APPLICATION FOR
CITY OF CHAMPAIGN DISTRICT 3 COUNCIL MEMBER**

(Note: Information provided by the applicant on this form may be disclosed pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, subject to applicable exemptions.)

Background

Name: Jamar Brown

Home Address: 1503 Greyrock Ln Business Address: _____

Champaign, IL 61822

Home Telephone: _____ Business Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone Number

Email Address: 7(1)(b) - Personal Email Address

How long have you lived in the City of Champaign? 41yrs

Please list addresses at which you have established residency within the City of Champaign during the past three (3) years and the dates of residency at that address:

| Address: (Most recent first) | Dates: |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>1503 Greyrock Ln</u> | <u>Jan 2019- Present</u> |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |

Present Occupation:

Facilities Operations Coordinator University of IL Dept of Civil Eng.

Voter Registration:

Attach a copy of proof of voter registration.

09 JUN 2024 AM 11:21

Education and Training

Please list the formal education or training you have received. Be sure to include all training which is related in some way to preparation for serving on City Council.

| <u>Dates of Study</u> | <u>Name, Type of School/Instructor</u> | <u>Subject</u> | <u>Degree/Certificate</u> |
|-----------------------|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Experience

Beginning with your most recent employment, volunteer work, or life experience, please state your previous experience. Be sure to include all experiences which are related to preparation for serving on City Council.

1. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

City of Champaign

Position: Vice Chair Human Relations Commission

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 2009 To: 2011

2. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

Champaign Unit 4 Board of Education

Position: Secretary/Vice President

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 2011 To: 2015

3. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

~~Champaign Unit 4 Board of Education~~
Young Elected Officials

Position: Member

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 2012 To: 2016

Potential Conflict of Interest

Can you think of any relationship or other reason which might possibly constitute a conflict of interest if you are selected to serve on the City Council? (This question is not meant to disqualify you; it is only intended to provide information.)

None

Have you been convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime? If so, please list the offense, date and court of conviction. (Article 13, Section 1 of the Illinois Constitution)

No

Personal Statement

Please write a brief statement concerning why you are interested in serving on the City Council.

I'm passionate about serving our city and contributing to the City Council's vision. My experiences on the Human Relations Commission and Champaign Unit 4 School Board instilled in me the importance of collaborative goal-setting and decision-making. Witnessing the Council's impact on residents, businesses, and the entire community solidified my desire to be actively involved in serving our great city. I'm particularly interested in the Council's focus on economic development for small businesses and community housing. My work on the School Board and the Human Relations Commission honed my skills in communication, collaboration, policy analysis, and budgeting. I'm confident these skills, coupled with my deep commitment to our city, will enable me to be a valuable asset on the City Council.

Supplemental Questions

1. What do you see as the most pressing need in the City of Champaign? Why?

Champaign is a growing city with diverse needs. While various issues may take center stage, I believe one of our most pressing challenges is fostering a collaborative environment among all levels of government and community partners. This unified approach is essential to ensure our long-term plans (10, 15, and 20 years) align with the city's master plan. By working together, we can create a roadmap for a thriving Champaign that addresses the priorities of all residents.

2. Prior to learning about the Council vacancy, have you ever been to a City Council meeting? If yes, what was the topic or topics you were interested in?

I have actively participated in City Council meetings for many years. These sessions have addressed critical issues facing our community, including police-community relations, neighborhood development, economic growth, and initiatives for our youth. My consistent engagement has allowed me to gain a comprehensive understanding of the city's priorities and challenges.

3. What in your qualifications or background make you the right person for this appointment?

My dedication to public service positions me well for this City Council appointment. Since 2008, I have actively engaged in city government. As Vice Chair of the Human Relations Commission, I championed inclusivity and fostered positive change. I played a key role in helping reform the police complaint process, demonstrating my ability to tackle complex issues collaboratively. My experience as a member of a previous version of the Community Coalition, CCAP, further demonstrates my commitment to community well-being. Additionally, my tenure as an elected official on the Champaign Unit 4 School Board honed my leadership skills and instilled a deep understanding of responsible governance.

4. What are some of your long-range objectives for the City of Champaign?

While this appointment is for one year, I believe significant progress can be made on long-term objectives. My focus would be on, Strengthening partnerships: I will actively build relationships with key community partners to amplify our collective impact. Advancing affordable housing, I will champion initiatives that increase the availability of affordable housing options within our city. Supporting a balanced economy, I will advocate for policies that attract large companies while fostering the growth of our vibrant small business community.

5. What do you see as successful qualities of a Council Member?

A successful city council member must possess strong leadership, effective communication, collaboration, integrity, problem-solving skills, a commitment to public service, and adaptability. These qualities will enable them to guide the community, understand constituents' needs, build consensus, maintain trust, address challenges creatively, prioritize public interests, and navigate change. By embodying these qualities, I am confident that I can make a meaningful contribution to the city council and help create a brighter future for our community.

6. What is the role of a Council Member?

A city council member serves as the bridge between residents and city government. They craft laws, oversee the management of the budget, and ensure resident concerns are heard. Through committee work, they develop in-depth knowledge on specific areas and contribute to informed decision-making. Effective communication is key, allowing them to explain decisions, keep residents informed, and build trust within the community. Ultimately, they are dedicated public servants who work together to shape the city's future, balancing growth and resident needs.

7. Give us an example of a time you solved a difficult problem or issue.

A time that I had to face a difficult situation is when I was enlisted to help my sister with my nephew who was struggling with school and had all but checked out. It was getting close to the end of the year and he had to write a final paper but was not interested in any of the topics that were given to him by the teacher. He decided he was not going to write the paper and take whatever grade he would be given. Once I stepped in I asked him about different things that he was interested in and he started to tell me in depth about his favorite basketball player. I then had my sister ask the teacher if he could write his paper on this as long as all the grading parameters were met. The teacher agreed, the paper was written, and my nephew passed his class.

8. What are your ideas to strengthen economic opportunity and development in the City of Champaign?

Though the city has existing initiatives for economic development, I believe a microloan fund for small businesses is a strategic addition. The recent rise in home-based and small-scale businesses post-pandemic signifies a strong entrepreneurial spirit in our community. However, these ventures often lack access to capital to grow. By providing financial assistance and educational resources, we can empower these businesses to thrive and become significant economic contributors in the future.

References

* Current City of Champaign City Council Members should not be included below.

Name: Willie Comer

Occupation: Exc. Director of Youth for Christ

Address: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone:

Name: Dr. Travis Dixon

Occupation: Professor of Communication & Director of Graduate Studies

Address: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone:

Name: Kandace Turner

Occupation: Public Engagement in Higher Education

Address: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone:

Submitted by:

Jamar Brown

Printed Name

Signature: [REDACTED]

7(1)(b) - Signature

6/3/2024

Date

Voter Information

BROWN, JAMAR L

1503 GREYROCK LN

CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822 [Update Registration](#)

Precinct: City of Champaign 34

[Voting Districts](#)

Registration Status

✓ Current

Election Information

No Current Elections

Vote By Mail Request

Polling Places

Directions to Polling Place

Parkland College - E Building

2400 W. BRADLEY AVE

E BUILDING

CHAMPAIGN, IL 61821

[Directions to Polling Place](#)

Become An Election Judge

Be A Part Of The Election!

Click the link below and fill out the Election Judge request form. For more info on Judge reqs & responsibilities, visit champaigncountyclerk.com

[Apply To Be An Election Judge](#)

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- (1) Email to the City of Champaign Clerk, at cityclerk@champaignil.gov with the subject line of "Application for District 3 Council Member"; or
- (2) Physical delivery to the City Clerk at 102 N. Neil St., Champaign, IL 61820.

**APPLICATION FOR
CITY OF CHAMPAIGN DISTRICT 3 COUNCIL MEMBER**

(Note: Information provided by the applicant on this form may be disclosed pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, subject to applicable exemptions.)

Background

Name: Shauna Clayborn

Home Address: 2804 W. Kirby Ave Business Address: _____

Champaign, IL 61821 _____

Home Telephone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone Business Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone

Email Address: 7(1)(b) - Personal Email Address

How long have you lived in the City of Champaign? 44 years

Please list addresses at which you have established residency within the City of Champaign during the past three (3) years and the dates of residency at that address:

| Address: (Most recent first) | Dates: |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>2804 W. Kirby Ave, Champaign, IL 61821</u> | <u>June 2010-Present</u> |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |

Present Occupation:

State Universities Retirement System: Officer of Procurement and DEI

Voter Registration:

Attach a copy of proof of voter registration.

Education and Training

Please list the formal education or training you have received. Be sure to include all training which is related in some way to preparation for serving on City Council.

| <u>Dates of Study</u> | <u>Name, Type of School/Instructor</u> | <u>Subject</u> | <u>Degree/Certificate</u> |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| <u>1997-2002</u> | <u>Illinois State University</u> | <u>Communications</u> | <u>Bachelor of Science</u> |
| <u>2017</u> | <u>Project Management Institute</u> | <u>Project Manager</u> | <u>Certified Associate Project Management</u> |
| <u>2017-2019</u> | <u>University of Illinois</u> | <u>Business</u> | <u>Master Business Administration</u> |
| <u>Est. Oct 2024</u> | <u>National Institute of Government Purchasing</u> | <u>Procurement</u> | <u>Certified Public Procurement Officer</u> |

Experience

Beginning with your most recent employment, volunteer work, or life experience, please state your previous experience. Be sure to include all experiences which are related to preparation for serving on City Council.

1. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

In my current role at SURS, I oversee procurement and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts for both investment and non-investment procurements. This position required me to start with minimal policies and procedures related to DEI and develop comprehensive, inclusive procurement policies and procedures. My work ensures that procurement practices are equitable and inclusive, reaching a wider array of minority-owned, women-owned, and disabled-owned businesses. This role has honed my skills in policy development, compliance, and community outreach, all of which are critical for serving on the City Council.

Position: State Universities Retirement System (SURS)

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: March 2023 To: Present

2. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

In my current role as Board President for the YWCA Champaign County, I help lead governance matters including bylaws, policies, budgets, programming, and grants. My responsibilities also involve strategic planning to ensure the organization stays true to its mission to eliminate racism and empower women. This role has provided me with extensive governance experience, strong fiscal oversight skills, and a deep understanding of nonprofit management.

A significant focus of the YWCA is dosing the digital divide through computer literacy programs and advocating for broadband and digital access. Our current program, STRIVE, based in Champaign and Rantoul, equips women from our underserved populations with essential digital skills to enhance their job prospects. We partner with businesses to provide employment and secure funding and support for the program.

Position: YWCA Champaign County Board President

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: August 2021 To: Present

3. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:

I worked ten years with business units, writing and communicating policies, systems and training updates, and other information to various business units such as payroll, accounting, and purchasing. My experience here strengthened my abilities in dear communication, policy Interpretation, and stakeholder engagement.

As the first Supplier Diversity Coordinator at UIUC, I helped manage the University of Illinois' inaugural supplier diversity program. I was responsible for outreach efforts, policy development and ensuring compliance with diversity initiatives. This role provided ma with deep insights into the importance of supplier diversity and the implementation of policies that promote diversity in public procurement processes.

Position: Uofl System Communications Manager; Supplier Diversity Coordinator

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 2008 To: 2023

Boards and Commissions

Please list any boards, commissions, or task forces on which you currently serve by appointment of the Mayor or City Council of the City of Champaign.

| |
|--|
| |
| |

Public Office

Please list any public offices currently held by appointment or election of the governing body of a unit of local government, school district, State constitutional officer or Illinois General Assembly.

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Appointed by/Elected</u> | <u>Term</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Community Involvement

Please list volunteer organizations that you are involved with locally:

| <u>Organization</u> | <u>Activity</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| YWCA Champaign County | Board President/Member | August 2021-Present |
| Junior League of Champaign | Member | March 2019-March 2021 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Honors, Awards, Recognition

Please list any honors, awards or recognition which you have received:

| <u>Honor, Award, Recognition</u> | <u>Received From</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Potential Conflict of Interest

Can you think of any relationship or other reason which might possibly constitute a conflict of interest if you are selected to serve on the City Council? (This question is not meant to disqualify you; it is only intended to provide information.)

NO

Have you been convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime? If so, please list the offense, date and court of conviction. (Article 13, Section 1 of the Illinois Constitution)

NO

Personal Statement

Please write a brief statement concerning why you are interested in serving on the City Council.

I am deeply interested in becoming a City Council member for District Three, which includes the Kenwood neighborhood, because I am passionate about making a positive impact in the community where my family and I reside. My experiences with the University of Illinois and the YWCA, where I have overseen DEI initiatives and governance, have also equipped me with valuable skills in advocacy and community engagement. These roles have taught me the importance of creating inclusive opportunities and fostering a supportive environment for all residents. I also want to connect more with the residence in the various neighborhoods because I believe in strengthening community bonds and ensuring every resident feels valued and heard. This vision takes me back to my childhood days living near Bradley and McKinley, where we had Neighborhood Watch, block parties, and everyone knew every single neighbor on the street. I am committed to seeing if we can recreate that sense of community today.

As a single parent raising my daughter in the Kenwood neighborhood, I have learned that active community engagement helps improve our communities in ways that are impactful and not always seen. I believe having this perspective will be a valuable asset to the City Council. While I may not have received any official awards or

accolades, my daughter giving me the "Mom of the Year" award means a lot to me and symbolizes my dedication to family and community.

As a lifelong learner who knows some of the great Council Members, I am confident in my ability to fill the seat and hit the ground running. I am eager to leverage my background and connections to serve our neighborhood effectively and ensure it remains a safe and thriving place for all.

Supplemental Questions

1. What do you see as the most pressing need in the City of Champaign? Why?

The most pressing need in the City of Champaign, from my perspective, is equitable economic development. While our city boasts significant strengths, such as a vibrant community and a thriving university presence, there are disparities that need addressing. Many residents, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds, face barriers to accessing economic opportunities and resources.

By prioritizing equitable economic development, we can address these disparities and ensure that all residents have a fair chance to thrive. This includes initiatives to support small businesses, particularly those owned by women, minorities, and disadvantaged groups. It also involves investing in workforce development programs to provide residents with the skills and training they need for high-quality jobs.

Moreover, equitable economic development encompasses affordable housing initiatives, access to healthcare, and support for education and childcare. These factors are interconnected and contribute to the overall well-being and prosperity of our community.

Ultimately, by focusing on equitable economic development, we can create a more inclusive and prosperous city where all residents have the opportunity to succeed in a thriving and safe community. Another area of pressing need is the General Fund revenue. Since the State has exempted groceries from sales tax, it is estimated the City will lose \$1 million in revenue that needs to be replaced. There are various sources of revenue being considered by the City and I believe that my expertise in understanding budgets will enhance the Council's deliberation on what the revenue enhancement options are on the table.

2. Prior to learning about the Council vacancy, have you ever been to a City Council meeting? If yes, what was the topic or topics you were interested in?

I've attended multiple online City Council meetings during the Black Lives Matter movement and after incidents of gun violence, such as Officer Oberheim's tragic death. These were crucial times for our community, as gun violence affected everyone. I also stayed updated on the Garden Hills drainage and street infrastructure project, learning about ongoing issues and inequalities residents faced. I'm intrigued by the Council's plans to address these issues, including financing and issuing bonds, and I'm eager to support these efforts and provide my input.

Furthermore, I've been following the recent announcement from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) that the City of Champaign's North First Street has been selected as one of ten inaugural State Designated Cultural Districts. This area holds immense historical and cultural value. I believe efforts to nurture and expand this cultural heritage are crucial for the city's growth and identity.

Lastly, my participation in the Campus-Community Compact to Accelerate Social Justice sessions on Economic Development, Inclusive Education, and Workforce Development has given me insights into community needs and the importance of follow-up and execution. Although these initiatives take time, I believe in providing regular updates and tangible outcomes to maintain momentum and engagement. I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to these efforts and am committed to advancing our community's goals.

3. What in your qualifications or background make you the right person for this appointment?

My qualifications and background uniquely position me to be an effective Council Member for the Third District. These are a few key aspects of my experience that make me the right person for this appointment:

Longstanding Community Involvement: Having lived in the Kenwood/Centennial Park neighborhood of District Three for the past 20 years, I have a deep understanding of the community's needs, challenges, and strengths. This long-term residency has allowed me to build strong relationships with residents and local businesses, giving me a personal stake in the district's future.

Professional Expertise in Procurement and Diversity: As the inaugural Supplier Diversity Coordinator at UIUC and the current Officer of Procurement and DEI at the State Universities Retirement System (SURS), I have extensive experience in creating inclusive procurement policies and practices. I have successfully implemented programs that prioritize supplier diversity, ensuring that minority-owned, women-owned, and disadvantaged businesses have fair opportunities in the procurement process. This experience equips me with the knowledge to advocate for equitable economic development in Champaign.

Leadership in Nonprofit Governance: Serving as the President of the YWCA Champaign County has honed my skills in governance, strategic planning, and fiscal oversight. My role involves overseeing governance matters, including bylaws, policies, budgets, programming, and grants. This experience has given me a solid foundation in nonprofit management and a clear understanding of how to navigate complex organizational structures to achieve community goals.

4. What are some of your long-range objectives for the City of Champaign?

My vision of long-term objectives include equitable opportunities and violence mitigation. Economic stability and equitable opportunities are linked to reduced crime rates. Studies show, when people have access to good jobs, education, and resources, they are less likely to engage in criminal activities. Focusing on inclusive economic growth can address the root causes of violence and create a safer community.

Secondly, I would like to see an increase in support of local non-traditional and brick and mortar businesses. Creating business incubators and accelerators for startups and small businesses, especially those owned by women, minorities, and disadvantaged groups, is essential. By offering mentorship, funding, and resources, we can support these businesses, leading to job creation and economic stability. A strong local economy can reduce economic pressures that contribute to violence.

Bringing a variety of industries to Champaign is crucial for economic growth. Offering incentives like tax credits, the Illinois EDGE program, and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) can attract businesses, creating jobs and diversifying the economy. Also, focusing on advanced manufacturing and information technology for example could provide new job opportunities and reduce economic disparities.

Enhancing job opportunities, supporting local businesses, and attracting diverse industries will promote equitable opportunities and help mitigate violence in Champaign. My commitment to these strategies will foster a safe, prosperous, and inclusive community.

5. What do you see as successful qualities of a Council Member?

As a prospective Council Member, I hold firm beliefs about what constitutes a great representative. First, I believe in prioritizing the needs and concerns of our constituents above all else. Serving the community is not just a duty, but a privilege, and I am committed to being an advocate for the residents of our community.

Secondly, transparency and accountability are non-negotiable. I firmly believe that open communication and honesty are essential for fostering trust between the government and the people it serves. As a Council Member, I

will work tirelessly to ensure that the decision-making process is transparent and that I am accountable to those I represent.

Additionally, I understand the importance of collaboration and teamwork. No single individual has all the answers, and I am committed to working closely with my fellow council members, city officials, and community stakeholders to find innovative solutions to the challenges facing our city. As a bi-partisan Council, it shows that we can work together no matter our political party affiliation.

Furthermore, I believe in leading by example. Upholding ethical standards and demonstrating integrity in all my actions is paramount. I will strive to be a role model for ethical leadership and conduct myself with the utmost professionalism at all times.

Lastly, I recognize the importance of continuous learning and growth. The needs of our community are ever-evolving, and as a Council Member, I am committed to staying informed, seeking out new perspectives, and adapting my approach to best serve the interests of our district.

In summary, I believe that a great Council Member is someone who listens to their constituents, operates with transparency and accountability, collaborates effectively, leads with integrity, and remains committed to personal and professional growth. If given the opportunity to serve as a Council Member, I am fully dedicated to embodying these principles and working to make a positive impact on our community.

6. What is the role of a Council Member?

As a potential Council Member representing District Three, where my family and I have lived for 20 years, I believe the role of a Council Member encompasses the following top three responsibilities:

Advocating for Residents: This means rolling up my sleeves and putting in the work even when it gets tough, attending local events, and participating in community activities to stay connected with residents. I am committed to ensuring that every voice is heard and that the needs of our diverse population are met. By fostering open lines of communication, I aim to bridge the gap between residents and city departments. Serving our community is an honor, and my priority is to be a dedicated advocate for our district.

Safety and Community Engagement: Ensuring our neighborhoods are safe places where children can play outside and families can gather is crucial. I will work diligently to enhance public safety measures and create an environment where everyone feels secure. Additionally, I will help connect existing Initiatives and resources within the community, making sure that information about cultural and local events is well-advertised and accessible to all.

Transparency and Accountability: Transparency and accountability are fundamental to building trust between the government and its citizens. I will work to make decision-making processes transparent and hold myself accountable to our residents. This includes promoting good governance practices and ethical standards ensuring that public funds are used effectively and that policies and initiatives are communicated clearly to all populations.

The role of a Council Member requires dedication and commitment. I have a proven track record of reliability, never missing a day in my Executive Professional MBA program or a YWCA board meeting as president. Attending Council meetings, researching issues, and managing the city budget to support essential programs are responsibilities I take seriously.

By focusing on these key areas, I aim to create a thriving, inclusive, and safe community for all residents.

7. Give us an example of a time you solved a difficult problem or issue.

As the Officer of Procurement and DEI at SURS, I faced a significant challenge when the Supreme Court ended affirmative action, complicating efforts to diversify our suppliers. To address this, I developed new strategies to promote diversity within the legal constraints.

Despite limited guidance on the law's impact on supplier diversity, I researched how other organizations were adapting and consulted legal experts to understand the ruling's implications. This informed my approach to embed inclusive policies and procedures into the procurement process rather than creating a separate diversity program.

By enhancing our current policies and increasing outreach efforts, we have seen a rise in responses from minority-owned, women-owned, and disadvantaged businesses. This progress, achieved in less than a year since the change, highlights my ability to navigate complex challenges and implement effective solutions.

8. What are your ideas to strengthen economic opportunity and development in the City of Champaign?

I'm passionate about supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs. My ideas to strengthen economic opportunity and develop Champaign, focus on many of the ideas that are currently in process.

Promote Workforce Development: Collaborate with local schools, community colleges, and universities to align educational programs with the needs of local industries. This includes vocational training, internships, and apprenticeships.

Expand Job Training Programs: Invest in job training and retraining programs that equip residents with the skills needed for high-demand jobs, particularly in technology, healthcare, and other service industries.

Improve Broadband Access: Ensure all neighborhoods, especially underserved areas, have access to high-speed internet. This is crucial for businesses, remote work, and educational opportunities.

Promote Digital Literacy: Expand digital literacy programs to help residents and small businesses effectively use technology, increasing their competitiveness in the digital economy.

Foster Inclusive Economic Growth: Implement targeted support programs for minority-owned businesses, including grants, low-interest loans, and mentorship programs

References

* Current City of Champaign City Council Members should not be included below.

Name: Aaron Carter

Occupation: Uofl System, AVP Procurement Services

Address: 208 Henry Administration MC 356

Home Phone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone

Urbana, IL 61801

Business Phone: _____

Name: Anne Skuse

Occupation: United Way, Director of Stratgic Partnerships

Address: _____

Home Phone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone: _____

Name: Kandace Turner

Occupation: Uofl, Director of Public Engagement

Address: _____

Home Phone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone: _____

Submitted by:

Shauna Clayborn

Printed Name

7(1)(b) - Signature

Signature

5/30/2024

Date

REGISTRATION LOOKUP RESULTS

Your Search Criteria: Shauna, Clayborn, 2804, W KIRBY AVE, 61821, 7(1)(c) -

Name:
Shauna R Clayborn

Age:
44

Registration Status:
Shauna Clayborn **IS REGISTERED TO VOTE** in the State of Illinois.

If you have any questions, please contact [the Champaign local Election Authority](#)

[Early Voting/Grace Period Registration Locations](#)

Election Day Polling Place:
Bresnan Meeting Center
706 Kenwood Rd
Champaign, IL
61821

The selected Jurisdiction has indicated that all of their Polling Places have Grace Period Registration on Election Day.

District Information

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Congressional (Federal) | 13 |
| State Senate | 52 |
| State Representative | 103 |
| Appellate Judicial | 5 |
| City | CITY OF CHAMPAIGN |
| Forest Preserve | CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FOREST |
| Health | CHAMPAIGN-URBANA PUBLIC HEALTH |
| Judicial Circuit | 6 |
| County Board | 5 |
| Mass Transit | CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MTD |
| Park | Champaign Park District |
| Precinct | CITY OF CHAMPAIGN 35 |
| Retention Appellate Judicial | 4 |
| Regional Bd of Ed. | 9 |
| Community College | Parkland College 505 |
| Educational Service Region | RS-9 (Champaign-Ford) |
| Sanitary | URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SANITARY |
| Unified School | Champaign CUSD 4 |
| Township | CITY OF CHAMPAIGN TOWNSHIP |
| Ward | CHAMPAIGN CITY COUNCIL 3 |

[Return to Registration Lookup](#)

PSV-OVA-WEB2

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**** Applications must be received by Noon, 12:00 p.m., on June 3, 2024 via:**

- (1) Email to the City of Champaign Clerk, at cityclerk@champaignil.gov with the subject line of "Application for District 3 Council Member"; or
- (2) Physical delivery to the City Clerk at 102 N. Neil St., Champaign, IL 61820.

**APPLICATION FOR
CITY OF CHAMPAIGN DISTRICT 3 COUNCIL MEMBER**

(Note: Information provided by the applicant on this form may be disclosed pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, subject to applicable exemptions.)

Background

Name: Justin Michael Hendrix

Home Address: 2407 West John St. A. Business Address: _____

Home Telephone: 7(1)(b) - Personal Telephone Number Business Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: 7(1)(b) - Personal Email Address

How long have you lived in the City of Champaign? 20+ years

Please list addresses at which you have established residency within the City of Champaign during the past three (3) years and the dates of residency at that address:

| Address: (Most recent first) | Dates: |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. <u>2407 West John St. A.</u> | <u>2018 - Currently</u> |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |

Present Occupation:

Advocate - Educator - Community Engineer

Voter Registration:

Attach a copy of proof of voter registration.

Education and Training

Please list the formal education or training you have received. Be sure to include all training which is related in some way to preparation for serving on City Council.

| <u>Dates of Study</u> | <u>Name, Type of School/Instructor</u> | <u>Subject</u> | <u>Degree/Certificate</u> |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>2019-2021</u> | <u>Parkland College</u> | <u>Gen Edu.</u> | <u>Associates Degree</u> |
| <u>2019-2021</u> | <u>Parkland College</u> | <u>Early Childhood</u> | <u>Associates Degree</u> |
| <u>2021-2024</u> | <u>University of Illinois Champ-Urbana</u> | <u>Early Childhood</u> | <u>Bachelors Degree</u> |

Experience

Beginning with your most recent employment, volunteer work, or life experience, please state your previous experience. Be sure to include all experiences which are related to preparation for serving on City Council.

1. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:
Carle Auditory Oral School; Carle Hospital; Health Care; Education

Position: Enrichment Teacher

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 04/2022 To: Currently

2. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:
Urbana Early Childhood School; Urbana School District #116; Childcare; Education

Position: Teacher

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: 2019 To: Currently

3. Company/Employer and Type of Business or Area of Experience:
Urbana Early Childhood School; Urbana School District #116; Childcare; Education

Position: _____

Dates of Employment/Experiences: From: _____ To: _____

Boards and Commissions

Please list any boards, commissions, or task forces on which you currently serve by appointment of the Mayor or City Council of the City of Champaign.

Public Office

Please list any public offices currently held by appointment or election of the governing body of a unit of local government, school district, State constitutional officer or Illinois General Assembly.

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Appointed by/Elected</u> | <u>Term</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Community Involvement

Please list volunteer organizations that you are involved with locally:

| <u>Organization</u> | <u>Activity</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>HITNHOMEBOY</u> | <u>Owner/Creator</u> | <u>Est. 2020 - Currently</u> |
| <u>Equality Illinois</u> | <u>Advisory Committee Member</u> | <u>2020 - 2022</u> |
| <u>Illinois Birth to 5</u> | <u>ACTIONS Committee Member</u> | <u>2022 - Currently</u> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Honors, Awards, Recognition

Please list any honors, awards or recognition which you have received:

| <u>Honor, Award, Recognition</u> | <u>Received From</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>Community Impact Award</u> | <u>BuyBlack Chambana</u> | <u>2021</u> |
| <u>LGBTQ Honors (Chicago, IL)</u> | <u>Lorde, Rustin, & Bates</u> | <u>2022</u> |
| <u>Voting Campaign Influencer</u> | <u>GLAAD</u> | <u>2020</u> |

Potential Conflict of Interest

Can you think of any relationship or other reason which might possibly constitute a conflict of interest if you are selected to serve on the City Council? (This question is not meant to disqualify you; it is only intended to provide information.)

I, Justin Michael Hendrix, fully believe there is no reason as to why I would constitute a conflict of interest, on my behalf.

Have you been convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime? If so, please list the offense, date and court of conviction. (Article 13, Section 1 of the Illinois Constitution)

No

Personal Statement

Please write a brief statement concerning why you are interested in serving on the City Council.

As a native son from the City of Champaign I believe in a community victory versus a vanity project. Advocacy, Education, and Community Culture are essential to an ever growing city like Champaign - which I aspire to be apart of.

Personally, I believe joining this council would incorporate newly innovate yet creative ideas, concepts, and solutions while still maintaining the foundations that built such a great city like Champaign today.

Supplemental Questions

1. What do you see as the most pressing need in the City of Champaign? Why?

Equitable changes based upon factual data and productivity for seeking successful outcomes and solutions are key. There are many pressing issues that exist in the City of Champaign, however we have chosen to solely focus on gun violence. We as a city must be able to maneuver from these "token" ideologies to realize that historically we cannot change systems

2. Prior to learning about the Council vacancy, have you ever been to a City Council meeting? If yes, what was the topic or topics you were interested in?

Yes, I had started to attend city council meeting to understand more of what is happening in my community. Furthermore, gathering with likeminded people I seen an issue of food insecurity and instability. I was able to advocate and work with city staff to help make a food pantry sustainable and spread multiple places throughout the city as the concept to combat food insecurity has become a city concern at large.

3. What in your qualifications or background make you the right person for this appointment?

Determination - The efficacy for continued success to which I assess situations and seek out the most successful outcomes possible.

Resilient - The abilities to recover in the most difficult conditions or situations in order to create significant change or continuous impact.

Compassion - The capacity for "community culture" in humanity embraces diversity, multiculturalism, intersectionality, equality, and transparency.

4. What are some of your long-range objectives for the City of Champaign?

The City of Champaign becoming an inclusive community that provides safe spaces for all of its citizens and not just those with access to affluent resources.

5. What do you see as successful qualities of a Council Member?

An individual that can work with all people and communities no matter backgrounds to come together to find a compromise for good solutions.

6. What is the role of a Council Member?

The role of a council member is to direct policy that will make the city a place all people want to live, work, and raise their families.

7. Give us an example of a time you solved a difficult problem or issue.

Previously, I ran for city council and my presence and experience trying to run for office elicited changes by former councilmember Tom Bruno who introduced and passed city ordinances to make running for office more attainable for all people.

I believe without me going through the experience that ordinance or law in policy changes would have never happened. Although it did not make immediate change for me it did create a more welcoming environment and policies that make running for office more equitable for people from all backgrounds and ways of life to engage in running for office without unnecessary barriers.

8. What are your ideas to strengthen economic opportunity and development in the City of Champaign?

The City of Champaign has a high rate in poverty and housing disparities - if the City of Champaign would create innovative programming that can produce home owners and entrepreneurship. Furthermore,

References

* Current City of Champaign City Council Members should not be included below.

Name: Rep. Lamont J. Robinson

Occupation: IL State Representative (5th District)

Address: 7(1)(b) - Home Address

Home Phone: district5reprobinson@gmail.com

7(1)(b) - Personal Email Address

Business Phone: 773.924.4616

Name: Ed Mullen

Occupation: Bucktown Law (Ed Mullen Esq.)

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone: 312.508.9433

Name: Jennifer Enoch

Occupation: Advanced Practice Nurse-Midwife

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

7(1)(b) - Home Address

Business Phone: 859.806.6019

Submitted by:

Justin Michael Hendrix

Printed Name

Signature: 7(1)(b) - Signature

6/3/2024

Date

REGISTRATION LOOKUP RESULTS

Your Search Criteria: Justin, Hendrix, 2407, W
JOHN ST, 61821, 7(1)(c) - Date of Birth

Name:

Justin M Hendrix

Age:

35

Registration Status:

Justin Hendrix **IS REGISTERED TO VOTE** in
the State of Illinois.

If you have any questions, please contact [the
Champaign local Election Authority](#)

[Early Voting/Grace Period Registration
Locations](#)