



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #2 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Christopher Mike

Residence Address 1067 Louise Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return (*in person*) this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk, at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2018.**

Applications received after 5:00 p.m. will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

**Frances McMullan, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

Christopher Mike
1067 Louise Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

November 26, 2018

Frances McMullan, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

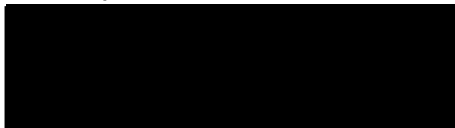
Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm writing to you to confirm my interest in serving the community as Ward 2 Councilmember of the Ypsilanti City Council. I believe my experience in leadership, customer service, and project management makes me a prime candidate, and I am excited to meet with you regarding this position.

I am currently Operations Manager at WZC Networking. During my time working here, the company has treasured my diligence and commitment, has entrusted me with an ever-increasing amount of responsibility, and has now come to rely upon me in almost every facet of the company's operation. All of our company's field engineers & technicians report directly to me, and I provide leadership and supervise them on a daily basis while managing their workload. Having previously worked as a field engineer with great success, I am called upon to provide my expertise and guidance regarding scheduling & logistics, job planning, project documentation, and various other items crucial to the successful planning and implementation of projects. My strong desire for excellence in my team's work has led me to meticulously produce an assortment of procedure documentation, and to constantly pursue professional development of employees, improvement of processes, and general innovation. In all these areas I have found great success by constantly researching about and developing my management & leadership skills, and reliably producing high quality results.

I am well aware of the fact that running a city government is not the same as a company; however, I also know that city government faces many financial, logistical, and other organizational challenges, and I believe many of my core strengths from business will transfer over, such as my strong record of successful leadership, reliability, and innovation. My past employers and employees have always identified in me a strong work ethic, keen intelligence, and focused leadership abilities. These qualities have enabled me to enjoy and excel at many different kinds of positions in the past. I have extensive knowledge of computer software & technology, as well as noteworthy interpersonal skills. I am honest and hard-working; I learn fast, and I always strive to do my best work, always with a high degree of professionalism. I look forward to seeing how your search transpires.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Christopher Mike

Professional Summary: Highly dependable & self-motivated leader with a history of success, solving problems by applying business knowledge and organizational skills effectively in a professional, productive work environment.

Education

2011	Master's degree University of North Texas, Denton, TX
2009	Bachelor's degree University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Relevant Work Experience

Aug 2016—Present WZC Networking
Operations Manager

My primary responsibilities include leading and supervising field service technicians, scheduling & logistics, materials & equipment ordering, fleet maintenance & management, warehouse & tools management, employee recruitment & development, job planning, project management, procedure documentation, internal development, shipping & receiving, and internal & customer inventory. I am also responsible for conducting preliminary project surveys, drafting statements of work & service level agreements, project documentation, customer follow-up, payroll, employee handbook updates, and assisting with and overseeing many special projects.

July 2015—Aug 2016 WZC Networking
Wireless Engineer

I worked as a lead engineer on wireless communications projects, including survey, design, installation and configuration of wireless network infrastructure, and creating customer documentation & internal processes corresponding to those projects. I also functioned as a field services technician. I dealt with wireless networking, router & switch configuration, configuration of computer terminals & various media services, and new store construction & installation. I served in various training and job management roles, along with technology installation and troubleshooting.

Oct 2012—Mar 2014 Nashville Metro Water Services
Office Support Specialist

I performed various administrative duties, primarily as TN One-Call liaison, making sure workers were dispatched to locate infrastructure on the street, coordinating private contractors and MWS workers, and recording any damages. I also had numerous roles involving organization and compilation, maintenance, and reporting of data relating to water/sewer infrastructure costs, damage costs, contracting costs, billing, and personnel. I used a computerized maintenance & management system (CMMS) to perform various data management and analysis tasks. I was very involved with e-mail and telecommunications within the company and with contractors. I also functioned in an information technology support role.

Aug 2011—Jan 2012 United States Postal Service
Mail Processing Clerk

I performed various clerical tasks, including operation of mail processing machinery, transfer of equipment, and manual mail processing.

References available upon request

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

I am interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember because it's the best chance for me to participate as a leader in our city government, addressing current and future issues and helping the City to reach its maximum growth potential.

2. What strength would you bring to the Council?

I am a highly dependable & self-motivated problem solver with a history of success applying business knowledge and organizational skills effectively in a professional, productive work environment. I am very civic-minded, and I would love nothing more than to address the concerns of our neighbors in the community, with effective solutions.

3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?

Affordable Housing – This is an issue that faces us again and again. Anybody in the area will tell you that Ypsi is a good possible alternative to Ann Arbor's way overpriced real estate market. And yet there are on-going issues with our housing market as well. I would propose an in-depth examination of the cost of living in Ypsilanti and the reasons for rising rents, and then suggest solutions to solve those root issues.

Water Street – There have been a lot of plans for redeveloping the property, but many residents of Ypsilanti who drive past this space on a regular basis do not consider this issue to be resolved. They know a lot of public money and energy has been invested into this project, and they want to see some real progress. My proposition would be to lead the fight to more aggressively explore alternate solutions to finally settle this issue.

Making progress for the City – Those of us who love Ypsilanti, its rich history and great characteristics, you would hope the City would be a top spot for people to call home. Instead, it seems that Ypsilanti is where people move to if they cannot afford Dexter or Ann Arbor, or if they have a particular need to live close to Eastern Michigan University, for instance. Business leaders starting up or relocating their businesses are also often attracted to Ypsilanti only as a lower-cost alternative to Ann Arbor. I think Ypsilanti has a lot of potential to be that next up-and-coming location, and I would propose solutions to open up the City to take steps towards that goal.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.

As a fairly new citizen of Ypsilanti, I have not yet served on city, non-profit or public boards. I have applied to be a citizen volunteer on a Washtenaw County oversight committee where I have particular expertise, and I hope to have a positive influence by bringing my passion and talents to the table to help the committee meet its specific short-term and long-term goals.

5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?

Presently for many Ypsilantians, the conversation sounds like, "how can we manage the Decline?" I love Ypsilanti, it is my home, and after a lot of thought it seems to me the conversation should sound more like, "How can we bring out the best in Ypsilanti?" and I would rather ask, "What are the three most positive, concrete steps we can take in the short term to make Ypsilanti a measurably better place?" So in this short, appointed term, my first order of business would be to bring new ideas, ask new questions, and try to change the conversation in that direction.

6. What is your vision for our City and community?

I envision Ypsilanti being its own great, beautiful community in its own right. I'm tired of hearing "I'm from Ypsilanti, which is just outside of Ann Arbor." I imagine Ann Arborites driving their young students to Ypsilanti schools en masse and not the other way around. I dream of Ann Arborites driving to Ypsi daily for work. I envision all sorts of businesses flocking to set up shop in Ypsilanti, and residents welcoming economic growth of all kinds. And I picture the City being able to hire as many people as they need without worrying about their debts.

7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

I also happen to be a professional musician, I have a ton of artistic friends, and I continue to be stunned by the lack of artistic work in Ypsilanti. Everybody knows that Ann Arbor is the place to be if you're in search of a real variety of art, and that's a damn shame. I really wish there were more arts and artistic work going on in Ypsilanti, and instead of just continuing to hope, I would do my best to take action to foster a more arts-friendly atmosphere.