Rachel Venegas, PMP

Stoughton, Wisconsin | 262-354-4605 | rachinchile4180@gmail.com
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Alderperson

Outstanding strategic planner, team leader, and analytical needs assessor with eight years of experience managing projects and cross-functional teams. In-depth knowledge of project management methods to deliver on time and under budget results. Excels at leading cross-functional, onsite/remote, and technical teams. Bilingual in English and Spanish. Certified project management professional (PMP) through PMI.

Areas of Expertise & Technical Skills

- Requirement Gathering
- Scope Management
- Project Charters
- Project Schedules
- Project Reporting
- Budgets/Resource Allocation
- Software Development (SDLC)
- Remote Project Management
- Analytical Skills
- Problem Solving
- Customer Relations
- Communications

Professional Experience

DXC TECHNOLOGY, Wisconsin Medicaid Software Account, Madison, Wisconsin 2/2019 – Present
(Initially contracted by **TEKSYSTEMS**, Employment Agency, Madison, Wisconsin)

Senior Project Manager

Oversee all aspects of software requirements gathering in collaboration with customers, communicate with stakeholders, and drive strategic planning to align project progress with goals. Assess and mitigate project risks, solve problems, and effectively allocate resources. Lead cross-functional teams, including performance management and coaching. Develop metric-based feedback and goals, support customers throughout projects, and communicate progress and results to stakeholders.

Key Projects:

- Achieved 100% delivery of on-time milestones as a diligent leader and strategic planner.

PARADIGM, Building Industry Enterprise Software, Middleton, Wisconsin 9/2016 – 1/2019

Professional Services Project Manager

Spearheaded strategic project planning and multi-national enterprise software implementation, including resource allocation, budgeting, and adherence to deadlines and timelines. Conducted reporting and analysis with sales and product teams to develop strategies to deliver on time and under budget results for selling solutions software. Presented results and progress to clients and stakeholders, conducted on-site work sessions, and fostered client relationships.

Key Projects:

- Successfully managed an account for the company's third largest customer and helped open the organization to markets in Latin America.

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE, Kforce Inc., Madison, Wisconsin 10/2015 – 12/2015

Project Manager

Effectively managed large-scale change management initiative with a focus on workflow streamlining. Organized strategic planning sessions to delivery on schedule results, collaborated with multiple teams, and worked with stakeholders and clients to prioritize tasks.

EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, Waukesha, Wisconsin 10/2012 – 10/2015

Project Manager

Championed cross-functional teams as a strategic leader of core project planning, forecasting, and budgeting. Assessed project cash flow, revenue, risks, and gross margin performance to realize optimal results. Closely worked with clients and stakeholders to ascertain requirements, identify issues, and develop proactive and creative solutions.

Key Projects:

- Demonstrated outstanding multitasking and prioritization skills, managing up to 20 concurrent projects.

Additional Experience

Customer Support Lead (2012) – ORBIS Corporation – Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

Customer Support Representative (2010 to 2012) – ORBIS Corporation – Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

Education & Certifications

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Business Administration and Spanish
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
Graduation with Honors
Study Abroad Semester Program, Valparaiso, Chile

Project Management Professional (PMP)

ALDERPERSON INTERVIEW POLICY

The Common Council shall follow the procedures outlined below when interviewing alderperson candidates to fill vacant seats:

1. The Clerk will read the 4 standard questions (Exhibit A) to each candidate.

2. The order in which candidates answer questions will rotate after each question.

3. Alders shall not ask additional questions. Additional questions may only be asked if they are approved by the Mayor before the Common Council meeting.

4. Candidates will have word limits placed on all answers as noted in Exhibit A.

EXHIBIT A

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR ALDERMANIC DISTRICT APPOINTEMNTS

Name:_____Rachel Venegas_____
Address:___101 W McKinley St, Stoughton_____

Phone #:_262-354-4605____Email Address:__rachinchile4180@gmail.com_____

(Please attach an additional sheet if more space is needed for your responses)

1. Discuss your occupation, training, and education. What characteristics, qualifications, and experiences do you have that support your candidacy and potential for contribution as an Alderperson? (500 WORDS MAX)

I work as a software project manager in Madison at DXC Technology. I have worked as a project manager for eight years after beginning my business career in customer service. I am experienced in understanding complex issues and various viewpoints. I have developed strong leadership skills and am skilled in resolving issues. I am calm and collected under pressure. I am skilled in gathering information before making a decision about an issue.

I have a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Spanish from UW-Eau Claire. I have studied abroad in Chile and travelled extensively nationally and internationally. I have seen many parts of the world and follow local, national, and international current events. I am conscious of people's situations outside of just the way I live, and have many friends from many parts of the world. I appreciate diversity while practicing leadership every day in my job and in my life. I am passionate about making the world a better place.

I recently started a small business and frequently patronize the many excellent small business owners we have in Stoughton. Our local economy is very important to me. I love watching it flourish and am passionate about the impact that City Council can have on our local Stoughton economy and citizens' quality of life.

Service to others is a pillar of a good life. I have volunteered locally with various groups over the years including AFS Intercultural Programs and Three Gaits riding program. In my daily life, I look for ways to serve others and act as a good example of how to treat myself and others.

I care about making Stoughton a better place to live for everyone. I am passionate about the great town we have and want to contribute to its legacy. Having grown up in Stoughton, then living in various places before returning, I am familiar with Stoughton and can also bring different viewpoints from my experiences.

I care deeply about the issues that are relevant today. What we do today affects our tomorrow. It would be an honor to serve and represent my community as an Alderperson.

2. In your opinion, what are the most important current issues for the City of Stoughton? Please discuss one of these issues in detail and describe how you would lead a committee to a solution. (400 WORDS MAX)

In my opinion, the most important current issues for the City of Stoughton are:

- **creating an inclusive community**
- **managing our city in a way that improves the well-being of the people who live here**
- **reducing our negative impact on the environment**
- **finding creative and effective ways to do all of this within budget**

I am passionate about reducing our negative impact on the environment. It is an issue that is important to many people. I follow the green movement closely and take small steps at home to reduce my own impact. I would lead a committee to implement small changes throughout the City so that we can become more educated and conscious of our impacts on the environment. I would lead a committee of people towards creative ways to implement green solutions. I would start small, with just one solar panel, or one compost bin while educating the public and getting buy-in from community members.

By starting small, we can see what works well within the community and grow those solutions without investing too much up front. Many times, green solutions are less costly than typical solutions. This would offer better quality of life for our citizens and help them build connections to the community of Stoughton. There are many small groups of nature-lovers and green-thinkers who want to showcase their work or pitch in to build a greener community.

When we work together on small solutions, we can find what works well for the City and then build on those solutions. While some environmental issues (climate change for example) may not be specific to Stoughton, communities appreciate seeing their City's impact on the environment reduced.

The committee, including myself, would propose ideas, gather information and discuss their feasibility. I would come up with a set of criteria that we could "grade" the solutions on (such as cost, impact, etc.), helping us to decide on which to implement first. I would also have the committee talk with local businesses and see what solutions have already been implemented.

3. If there was an issue on the table that you agreed with, but your constituents disagreed with, how would you vote and why? (100 WORDS MAX)

After doing a survey of my constituents, I would not vote in opposition to them. The only exception to this would be on an issue that is ethical in nature (for example, racism). I would not vote against my key beliefs in equality or other ethical topics. If I felt a policy was racist or wrong in an ethical way, I would not vote for it.

4. Council meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month and there are two standing committees you will be assigned to in addition to other meetings, correspondence, and information that will require your attention. Do you anticipate a problem in attending evening meetings or fulfilling other time commitments of an alderperson? (50 WORDS MAX)

I do not anticipate any problems with attending evening meetings or fulfilling other time commitments of an alderperson. I am very excited and committed to being an alderperson and will make it my commitment and priority to attend all meetings.