

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR ALDERMANIC DISTRICT #3 APPOINTMENT

(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?

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.

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

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?

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Sharonne V. Harvey

201 South Page Street
Stoughton, Wisconsin 53589

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Thirty Four years with the American Red Cross working in many different capacities. Broad experience in customer service that ensured profitability for the organization. Experience in managing a business , working with large staff and professionals . Eight years experience with State of Wisconsin Assembly as page and administrative assistant.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AMERICAN RED CROSS BADGER HAWKEYE REGION 1999-2012
BILLING SPECIALIST

- RECONCILE NBCS DAILY DOWNLOADS TO CFS DAILY BLOOD PRICING FILES FOR REGIONS 002 & 032
- RUN AND REVIEW TCA OPEN ORDERS & TDR BEFORE EACH BILLING CLOSE.
- PROVIDE EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE TO BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS RELATING TO BILLING MATTERS.
- MAINTAIN BSR MAILBOXES WEEKLY FOR BOTH REGIONS.

ACCOUNTING-ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 1990-1999

- DAILY A/P FUCTIONS PROCESSING VOUCHERS, EXPENSE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS & DAILY DEPOSITS
- DAILY DATA ENTRY OF INVOICES FOR PAYMENT WITH DISCOUNT ADVANTAGES
- BALANCE BANK STATEMENTS & PETTY CASH
- HANDLE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL INQUIRIES REGARDING PAYMENTS
- WORK CLOSELY WITH AUDITORS DURING AUDITS

STATISTICIAN 1982-1990

- DAILY MANUAL RECONCILIATION OF HOSPITAL SHIPMENTS, RETURNS, TRANSFERS, DERIVATIVES AND REFERENCE TESTS,
- WORK WITH OUTSIDE SOURCE TO DEVELOP FIRST COMPUTER PROGRAM TO PROCESS HOSPITAL BILLING.
- COMPILE STATISTICAL REPORTS FOR BUDGET PURPOSES.

PER MAR SECURITY

1998-PRESENT

LICENSED SECURITY OFFICER

- **MANAGE MADISON OFFICE WHICH INCLUDES RUNNING SECURITY FOR EVENTS AT CAMP RANDALL, KOHL CENTER AND CONDUCT STAFF TO WORK THE EVENT AND OVERSEE PAYROLL.**
- **STADIUM OPERATION COMMAND CENTER (SOC) SECURITY LIAISON PROVIDING RADIO COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN UW ATHLETIC STAFF, UWPD, PARAMEDICS AND PER MAR SECURITY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PEOPLE ATTENDING EVENTS. ORGANIZED SOC FOR LAMBEAU FIELD SECURITY STAFF.**
- **PERFORM AS EVENT MANAGER SUPERVISING SECURITY STAFF FOR ENTIRE EVENTS, PROBLEM SOLVING VARIOUS ISSUES AS THEY OCCUR.**

STATE ASSEMBLY-WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

1971-1979

ASSEMBLY MESSENGER

- **ASSIST LEGISLATURE WITH VARIOUS FUNCTIONS RETRIEVING DOCUMENTS BEING DEBATED, CO-ORDINATE WITH LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU ON STATUS OF NEW LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS, ACT AS LIAISON FOR LEGISLATURE WHILE IN SESSION BETWEEN LOBBYISTS AND SPECIAL GROUPS.**
- **ASSIGNED TO MAJOR COMMITTEES TO SET UP HEARING ROOMS, PROVIDE DOCUMENTS BEING DISCUSSED WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS, RECORD HEARING TESTIMONY, DOCUMENT HEARING PROCEDURES.**
- **RESPONSIBLE FOR CARE OF FILES FOR ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP.**
- **TRAVEL AROUND THE STATE WITH HEAD OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND VARIOUS COMMITTEES REGARDING NEW PROPOSALS AND PROPOSED LAWS, SUCH AS NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. DUTIES INCLUDE RECORDING MEETINGS, SETTING UP HEARING FACILITY, DOCUMENTING PROCEEDINGS, ARRANGING MEALS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**
- **HEAD MESSENGER ASSIGNED TO GALLERY DURING SESSIONS AND LEGAL HEARINGS.**

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- **ACT AS ASSISTANT FOR FIVE MILWAUKEE AREA LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS.**
- **HANDLE VARIOUS CONSTITUENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS AS THEY OCCUR**
- **DEVELOP NEWSLETTER**
- **ATTEND VARIOUS MEETINGS IN PLACE OF LEGISLATIVE MEMBER IN THEIR ABSENCE**
- **ATTEND TOWN MEETINGS AIDING LEGISLATIVE MEMBER AND CONSTITUENTS**

References provided upon request

RECEIVED
MAY 14 2012
CITY OF STOUGHTON

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(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? *Recently retired (May 1, 2012) after 34 1/2 yrs at the American Red Cross where worked in Finance. (See attached resume for details.) I currently work as a Licensed Security Officer for P.A. Man Security. I also worked various events with large crowds, ran the Madison office while also managing events at the Kohl Center, Camp Randall. (See Resume) Worked 8 years in the Wisconsin State Assembly starting as a Page & became an Administrative Assistant for 5 WI Assembly Legislators (see resume)*
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.
Budgets. With today's economic problems & the cap put on by Act 10, there are things that need to be looked at to see where we can make cuts but still provide the level of service needed because there is the possibility that more citizens will need help. Everyone wants to have a raise, but again a fair approach is needed so that a fair & honest compromise can be reached. Also need to find various ways to raise revenue but not taxes.
3. If there was an issue on the table that you agreed with, but your constituents disagreed with, how would you vote and why? *My job is to represent my constituents & not just what I feel. I'm the type of person who looks at all sides of the issue, find out as much info such as the pro's & cons of the proposal, meet with constituents to hear what they have to say. After putting everything together a picture is formed so that good decision for all involved can be made. Granted, you can't please everyone, but if you involve the people you represent & are upfront with the information showing the good things as well as bad, then people will listen & everything is above board.*
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?

No! As I stated in the 1st question, I'm recently retired & I strongly believe that when a person makes a commitment to a job or serve in a public office, they need to be there so that their constituents have a voice because that is why they elect you.

THOMAS D. MAJEWSKI

516 South Madison Street
Stoughton, WI 53589
(608) 712-8249
Majewski@charter.net

QUALIFICATION SUMMARY

More than twenty years experience in planning and caring for parks and conservancy areas.

Extensive knowledge of construction and maintenance of buildings, ballparks, hiking and biking trails, playgrounds, swimming pools and the equipment related to their use and maintenance.

Experience with planning and managing capital and operating budgets and supervising employees and contract personnel. Developed non-point pollution abatement plans and advised citizen and community organization in the revitalization and redevelopment of watersheds.

Capable of using all Microsoft Office products, AutoCad 2000 and Quickbooks.

EXPERIENCE

HOME BUILDING, Dane County

2000 to Present

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Madison, WI

1992 to 1999

Water Resources Specialist, 1998 to 1999

Outdoor Recreation Grant Program Manager, 1992 to 1997

Administered the appropriation of \$5.5 million in state and federal outdoor recreation grants annually. Directed workshops, gave presentations and provided technical assistance to municipalities and consultants for outdoor recreational, trail and green space planning and land acquisition. Reviewed management plans for conservation areas and trail developments. Held public meetings concerning changes to administrative code for outdoor recreation grants.

- Assisted Great Lakes Future, Inc. in selecting a consultant who led them through the process that will result in the development of a freshwater learning center.
- Advised the Stoughton River Task Force, wrote the grant and guided the process that secured a \$60,000 state outdoor recreation grant for the development of the Yahara River Trail.
- Worked to address resource management and renewal of the Milwaukee River Basin. Facilitated the organizational goals of a multi-agency/citizen partnership; provided support to the Governor-appointed Milwaukee River Revitalization Council and developed and coordinated a conference attended by 300 on environmental efforts in the Basin.
- Researched and prepared background materials for meetings of the Agricultural Performance Standards Workgroup for the Redesign of the Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement Program, and recorded minutes. Participated in the investigation of the impact of development on water quality.
- Authored *Outdoor Sport Fields & Courts Guide* (1996), *Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning* (1995), and *Land Acquisition and Appraisal Procedures* (1993), published by the Wisconsin DNR.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY PARKS, Milwaukee, WI

1984 to 1992

Park Planning Analyst, 1989 to 1992

Park Supervisor I, 1987 to 1989

Gardner II (Gardening Supervisor), Zoological Gardens, 1987

Gardner I, Zoological Gardens / Boerner Botanical Gardens, 1984 to 1987

Researched and recommended products, designs and construction methods for facility development to the Associate Park Director. As Park Supervisor, responsible for hiring, all training, daily supervision and record keeping for seven fulltime staff, construction trades contractors, and up to 18 seasonal employees who supported five parks, two parkways and the equipment used in maintenance and service. Planned and implemented ball field, trail and picnic area renovations.

- Liaison for Milwaukee County for county owned land issues related to watershed management planning.
- Participated in writing Park Standards for all facilities in the Milwaukee County Park System.
- Performed feasibility studies for the development or redesign of trails and park facilities.
- Reviewed proposed plats and made recommendations regarding adverse impact to parkland.
- Assisted in the development of capital budgets and state and federal grant applications.
- Developed policy for agricultural land rental.
- Advised Public Works Department on designs for non-point pollution control facilities and on a stream bank bio-remediation pilot project.
- Developed non-point pollution abatement plans and a standardized proposed ordinance for municipalities in Milwaukee County.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

Major: Resource Management: Park Management / Outdoor Recreation

Minor: Environmental Law Enforcement

Continuing Education:

Introduction to AutoCAD 2000, Madison Area Technical College, Madison, WI

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Watershed Planning, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

National Recreation and Park Association Playground Safety Certification

National Recreation and Park Association Aquatic Facilities Operator Certification

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 Alder Person?

Education & Training:

Bachelor of Science – Resource Management Major, Environmental Law Enforcement Minor
1982, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

My education has provided a solid base for understanding and managing policy, budget, and facility issues and situations.

Experience:

Experience as a representative for Milwaukee County as liaison to local municipalities with regards to land use has prepared me to manage contentious issues through the use of communication and consensus building.

My understanding of the mechanics of local political structures and their workings comes from my experiences working as a representative for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a Grant Program Manager and Milwaukee County as a Park Planning Analyst. Both positions required a close working relationship with municipal staff and elected officials.

My Budgetary Experience includes working on the development facility capital budgets and the oversight of an annual budget of \$5.5 million for grants programs.

As a Park Supervisor I have had extensive in house training for conflict resolution and personnel management. My experience with personnel in a union environment includes 5 years as a Park Supervisor for the Milwaukee County Park system.

I have been a member of the City of Stoughton River & Trails Task Force for over 10 years.

I have been a member of the City of Stoughton Landmarks Commission for 2 years.

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.

Some of the current issues include:

- The loss of quality of life amenities due to perceived budget constraints.
- The development of quality controls for future land development.
- New funding sources to alleviate the loss of tax funding.
- Hiring of and retaining quality City professional staff.

Leading a Committee to solution:

1. Review history of the problem and identify why there is a problem.
2. Evaluate what actions have been taken to date and why they failed to resolve the issue
3. Look at possible solutions from parallel problems and or other place outside of the city (municipal and private industry)
4. Request possible solutions from committee members, citizens, and city staff, outside experts (when applicable).
5. Discuss possible solutions and eliminate the unfeasible.
6. Present possible solution to those involved for comments
7. Modify solution and evaluate for workability.
8. Present options and

9. Come to a consensus on a solution.

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

It would depend on the issue. If the Constituents issue would not conflict with the health, safety, or long term benefit of the city, I would side with the constituents, as I would represent their wishes.

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No

GERALD H. OLSEN
317 PROSPECT LANE
STOUGHTON, WI 53589
(608) 873-7827

EDUCATION

Madison Business College, Madison, Wisconsin

BA Degree 1965

Major – Accounting

Accounting I & II (Elementary) Accounting III & IV (Applied) Intermediate, Cost, Advanced, & Income Tax Accounting, C.P.A. Review

Minor – Business Administration

Business Law I & II, Business Mathematics, Finance, Marketing Economics, Corporation Tax, Business Management, English, American Government, Real Estate, Risk & Insurance, Psychology, Salesmanship, Business Machines & Typing

WORK EXPERIENCE

1/5/2000 - Present: Retired

8/7/1975 – 1/5/2000: Dane County, Madison, Wisconsin

Accountant II: Perform professional accounting work, maintain financial records, and do related work as required.

Example of Duties: Maintain accounting system and financial control records; assist in the preparation, analysis, and review of estimates of revenue, reimbursement, expenditures, and other accounts; assist in the analysis and verification of financial reports and statements, accounts and records of expenditures, revenues, and other financial transactions; gather data for a variety of financial reports requiring the application of accounting principles and judgment; post financial transactions to ledgers and assist in the development of trial balances; compile financial reports; review and analyze accounts, records, financial statements and fiscal procedures, and interpret need for appropriate changes; assign work to and review work of clerical staff engaged in the recording and compilation of receipts and disbursements to and from various funds.

In 1983, a job audit was done on this position and I was reclassified from Accountant I to Accountant II.

7/9/1975 – 8/4/1975: Dane County, Madison, Wisconsin

Administrative Court Supervisor: Supervised the clerical operations of the Clerk of Courts' Family Support Division, consisting primarily of the collection and

disbursement processing of payments directed by Court Order; and did other related work as required.

Example of Duties: Interpreted court orders of family support payments and directed collection and disbursement processing of payments. Worked cooperatively with data processing regarding computerized operation and system modifications. Coordinated all computer input, interpreted and analyzed all output data. Trained clerical employees and assigned and coordinated their work. Recommended policy and procedure changes for efficient functioning of the overall system.

9/21/1970 – 8/9/1974: Advance Concrete Form, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin

Controller: Duties consisted of all general, cost accounting, and supervision.

Example of Duties: Supervised all accounting. Prepared all taxes and reports (except corporation returns), quarterly reports, Wisconsin U.C. and Federal U.T., Secretary of State reports, Highway Use Tax, real estate and personal property taxes, etc. Initiated various studies as required in connection with ledger and statements.

3/1/1969 – 8/15/1970: Varco-Pruden, Inc., Evansville, Wisconsin

Senior Accountant: Responsibilities involved all duties of Chief Cost Accountant as well additional duties listed below:

Example of Duties: Supervised all accounting and accounting personnel, prepared all taxes and reports, made all journal entries needed (accruals, adjustments, etc.), analyzed journals, ledgers, and statements.

12/15/1967 – 3/1/1969: Pruden Products, Inc. & Varco-Pruden, Inc

Chief Cost Accountant: Responsibilities involved being in complete charge of the cost system.

Example of Duties: Supplied pertinent information to purchasing department on perpetual inventories. Handled district managers payroll and was in charge of fixed assets. Made cost and general monthly adjusting journal entries. Supplied necessary schedules, working papers, etc., in both cost and general accounting. Occasionally worked in credit when credit manager was absent or on vacation. Assisted department head in most areas of accounting and supervision of personnel.

3/1/1965 – 12/15/1967: Nelson Muffler Corporation, Stoughton, Wisconsin

Cost Accountant

Example of Duties: Responsible for historical and job cost through perpetual inventory. Also assisted controller in various general accounting studies, etc. Worked with IBM equipment and was in charge when supervisor was sick or on vacation.

6/1/1961 – 3/1/1965: United States Rubber Company (UniRoyal), Stoughton, Wisconsin

Laboratory Control Clerk

Example of Duties: Duties consisted of writing up experimental and production formulations, methods of production, correspondence, and setting up standards. Held this full-time position while I attended college.

Military Service:

Wisconsin Air National Guard, 1962-1970 Rank: Staff Sergeant

Community Service:

Volunteer at Skaalen Home for several years

Member of Wisconsin Air National Guard & Active Duty for 9 years

Member of the American Legion

References:

Furnished on request

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INTERVIEW ANSWERS FOR ALDERMANIC DISTRICT #3 APPOINTMENT

Gerald "Jerry" H. Olsen
317 Prospect Lane
Stoughton, WI 53589
(608) 873-7827

1. Graduated from Stoughton High School in 1958. College in 1965 with a BA in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting. Ten years experience in the private sector in management and finance. Retired from Dane County Department of Administration (Controller's Office) in 2000 after 25 years. While there I had many administration and financial challenges. Elected Alderperson in 1992, serving five consecutive terms, sitting on all standing committees in the process. I am passionate about the future of our city and feel government must not only be responsive to the needs of the citizens, but fiscally responsible to the taxpayers as well.
2. I believe the most important issues facing the community right now are growth in jobs, general population, and school population.

Improving stagnant growth in downtown area

Stoughton's role should be encouraging private sectors to relocate to Stoughton while maintaining good relations with existing business, with further expansion to Business Park North. Our plan should focus on implementing smart streamlined growth regulations that foster growth and adopt incentives to attract more private venture capital.

I would lead a committee to check out different avenues to attract new business and consumers to Stoughton. We could explore opportunities to make them aware of the benefits of coming to our city. I would like to see the specialty stores downtown advertise in cooperation with Stoughton's Chamber of Commerce. For example, radio and internet ads targeting Illinois and Wisconsin demographics that showcase the fact that Stoughton is not only Syttende Mai, but that our warmth and uniqueness exist here 365 days a year.

3. If my vote only impacted District 3 my vote would be according to the consensus of the constituents for I am representing them. However, if there be no clear consensus I would vote my belief.
4. I do not anticipate any problems attending evening meetings or fulfilling any other time commitments of an alderperson.

May 8, 2012

Nick Probst
Stoughton City Clerk
Stoughton City Hall
381 E. Main St.
Stoughton, WI 53589

Clerk Probst:

I am seeking the appointment from District 3 to the Stoughton City Council. I believe my background as Chief of Staff for State Representative Keith Ripp and my degree in public policy and administration from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater would serve the residents of Stoughton in a beneficial manner. Working and serving in public service is a passion for me and I enjoy building new relationships.

I have worked in state government for the previous six years which has allowed me the opportunity to work with multiple constituency groups and has improved my skills related to communication, policy development, as well as the committee process that directly relate to the necessary qualifications to serve the constituency of District 3 on the Stoughton City Council. I have made my home in Stoughton for the last seven years and like want to see this city continue to grow both economically and culturally. Attached you will find my resume and submittal of my answers to the interview questions.

I look forward to speaking with council in the future and want to thank you for the opportunity to represent District 3 on the Stoughton City Council.

Sincerely,

Tyler Wenzlaff

TYLER WENZLAFF

118 Lincoln Ave
Stoughton, WI 53589
920-676-1967
Tylerwenzlaff@hotmail.com

OBJECTIVE	Representing my friends and neighbors through appointment to Stoughton City Council, Aldermanic District #3.
EDUCATION	University of Wisconsin Whitewater, Wisconsin <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor of Science Degree, May, 2005• Major: Public Policy and Administration• Academic Honors: Spring 2004
WORK EXPERIENCE	
01/10 – present	WI STATE ASSEMBLY OFFICE OF REP. KEITH RIPP Madison, Wisconsin Chief of Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constituent and Media Outreach• Policy Direction and Analysis• Budget Management and Administration• Human Resource Management and Administration• Committee Clerk
01/07- 12/09	WI STATE ASSEMBLY OFFICE OF REP. DAN LEMAHIEU Madison, Wisconsin <i>Legislative Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constituent and Media Outreach• Policy Research and Analysis• Data and Budget Management• Website Maintenance• Schedule and District Management
12/05 – 12/06	WI STATE ASSEMBLY OFFICE OF REP. ANN NISCHKE Madison, Wisconsin <i>Legislative Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constituent and Media Outreach• Data and Budget Management• Interim Committee Clerk and Website Maintenance
4/05-12/05	WI STATE SENATE OFFICE OF SENATOR MARY LAZICH Madison, Wisconsin <i>Limited Term Employee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Researched and analyzed policy• Prepared bill analysis• Researched and addressed constituent concerns
9/04-04/05	WISCONSIN HOUSING ALLIANCE Madison, Wisconsin <i>Intern</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assisted in policy research and analysis• Assisted with association management tasks• Observed and tracked the legislative processes
REFERENCES	References available upon request

Tyler Wenzlaff
Interview Questions
Appointment to Aldermanic District 3

1.

I am a graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater with a degree in public policy and administration. This degree has provided me the classroom experience and educational base to move into a position in the Wisconsin Legislature. While studying in college provided me a base knowledge, it wasn't until I gained full-time employment in 2005 that I was able to get the real life experience that has shaped my views on the issues and experience dealing with a wide range of people and ideas. Working with these different groups has taught me when it is appropriate to lead and when it is appropriate to listen.

For the last six years I have had the privilege of developing legislation and seeing it come to fruition as a staff member for multiple legislators. During my time in the state legislature I have worked in both houses, including three different representatives. In my current capacity I have been the Chief of Staff for State Representative Keith Ripp for the last three years and worked with countless constituency groups to develop legislation that has received support from both sides of the aisle. My administrative experiences include managing other staff, developing and managing a budget, media relations, and constituent outreach. I also have policy experience relating to developing legislation, meeting with advocacy groups, and clerking a legislative committee.

As an example, in 2009 when State Representative Ripp was first elected we were made aware of an issue that one of our Villages were having with their TID. Representative Ripp and I worked to bring residents, along with local and state officials together by holding a Town Hall Meeting in the Village. We gathered different opinions and sorted out our options to create a plan of action that gained a consensus among the majority of attendants. Our work ultimately culminated with an amendment to the 2009-11 Wisconsin State Budget and is an example of how I have worked with local officials in the past.

I believe my experience in the Legislature has provided me with the knowledge and know-how to effectively communicate with my constituency, colleagues, and members of the media. Aldermen are representatives of their constituency and also the city. They must effectively champion the city in many different roles. My experience working with different stakeholders as well as growing up in the small village of Wrightstown in the Fox Valley has grounded my views in a commonsense approach which I think would be an asset to Stoughton's Common Council.

2.

Stoughton, like other communities across the state, faces issues related to continued funding of services and intergovernmental relationships but I believe the biggest issue facing our community today is the relationship between big box growth and main street business development

Stoughton's downtown remains an active and economically-viable option to many businesses, but its ability to remain an attractive opportunity while dealing with increased traffic congestion will be determined by the council's decisions in the future. Big box stores are beginning to max-out their economic models in many locations around the state and are looking to surrounding communities for new market growth. This puts pressure on traditional downtowns to remain competitive or pass into the history books.

When a big box store comes into a community, inevitably traffic flow changes and migrates toward to the store. These stores demand infrastructure improvements and investments which could lead to a siphoning of traffic from downtown. Development on either side of the city could cause a change in traffic flow that would lead consumers to bypass Stoughton's downtown. It would be the duty of the responsible committee to examine the effects of such a development and decide which way development should precede. Once a big box store decides on a location, it would bring with it additional commercial and residential development around the site which makes choosing the area of development vitally important and would determine Stoughton's future growth.

As the council moves forward, within in the committee format, I would like to examine how other communities with historic downtowns have developed while maintaining the viability of their downtown. Partnering the committee with the Stoughton Chamber of Commerce and local stakeholders, I believe we could work together to bring additional employers to our community while maintaining our downtown area.

3.

I believe my upbringing in a similarly small village has given me a commonsense type approach to issues. On rare occasions, a situation arises that requires a representative to make an unpopular decision that is clearly the right choice. For example, when it is necessary to protect a vulnerable minority.

I will always listen to my constituents, but there is a reason our founders chose representation over direct democracy. If that would put me at odds with a majority of my constituency I would make every effort to explain my decision and the process I used to come to my decision. At times we may disagree but it is my hope that at least we could respect our differences as we may find ourselves on the same side on another issue.

4.

It is not unusual for staff of State Legislators to be involved in their local government and if a conflict does arise my duties as an Alderman would take precedent.