



Office of the Mayor
Laurel Lunt Prussing

400 S. Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 384-2456
Fax (217) 384-2426
llprussing@urbanailinois.us

June 12 2014

To: Urbana City Council Members Carol Ammons, William Brown, Eric Jakobsson, Michael Madigan, Diane Marlin, Dennis Roberts, and Charlie Smyth

From: Laurel Lunt Prussing

Re: Appointments

I am pleased to submit the following appointments for your approval:

APPOINTMENTS

Community Development, Planning Manager,

Michael Schwarz, effective June 23, 2014

Mr. Schwartz has 17 years of public and private sector experience in Illinois and Iowa, most recently as Senior Planner for the City of Davenport, Iowa. A graduate in Urban Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he also has a Master of Urban Planning and Policy degree from the University of Illinois, Chicago.

Intergovernmental Appointments

GIS Policy Committee:

Sanford Hess (replacing Bill Gray), effective June 17, 2014

UC2B:

Charlie Smyth (replacing Carol Ammons), effective July 1, 2014



Michael J. Schwarz, AICP

[REDACTED]
Joliet, Illinois 60435
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dedicated and accomplished professional with 17 years of public and private-sector experience, serving in progressively responsible roles, with an advanced degree in Urban Planning and Policy. Results-driven, personable and energetic leader, with the ability to comprehend, coordinate, and manage multiple projects from initial planning through successful implementation. Flexible team player who fosters cooperation, communication, and consensus among individuals and groups.

Employment: City of Davenport

Planner III (Senior Planner)

**Davenport, Iowa
November 2010 to Present**

- Senior Planner for a world-class community of 100,000 people, the third largest city in Iowa
- Mentored and supervised staff and provided expert staff support to the City Council, Plan Commission, Zoning Board, Design Review Board, and various neighborhood organizations
- Project Manager for the Planning Area 4 neighborhood planning process
- Grant Contract Manager for the Phase 1A Geomorphic and Archeological Assessment of Credit Island, a National Battlefield Site of the War of 1812

Village of Plainfield

Planner II (Senior Planner)

Plainfield, Illinois

November 2005 to October 2009

- Excelled as Senior Planner for a rapidly-growing community of nearly 40,000 people, ranked in 2007 as the fifth fastest growing suburb in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine
- Provided staff support to the Plan Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Village Board
- Managed consultants and process for the award-winning *Plainfield Riverfront Master Plan*
- Coordinated the Plainfield Riverfront Steering Committee and Riverfront Foundation
- Managed consultants through construction documentation for a planned \$4 million river walk
- Served as Staff Liaison to the DuPage River Trail Regional Planning Committee
- Initiated and provided support for various economic development efforts
- Managed multiple complex village planning projects on-time and within budget
- Provided expert customer service to the development community and public
- Managed numerous complex real estate development cases utilizing skills and abilities in design review, agreement negotiation, report writing and oral presentation
- Served as Village representative to TRAC, a broad coalition of suburban governments
- Built and fostered relationships with numerous units of government and organizations including school, park and library districts; counties; municipalities; local, state, and federal elected officials; chamber of commerce; and economic development organizations

Location Finders International, Inc.

Planning & Entitlement Coordinator

Mokena, Illinois

Sept. 2005 to November 2005

- Managed the planning and municipal entitlement efforts for a full-service real estate development company focused on the commercial, industrial and hospitality sectors
- Facilitated the successful zoning and development approval process for various commercial projects, including Walgreens, Just Tires, and Chase Bank
- Coordinated all third-party design consultants and worked closely with local officials
- Presented development projects at public meetings to gain necessary municipal approvals

City of Naperville

Community Planner

Naperville, Illinois

May 2000 to September 2005

- Excelled as Community Planner for a rapidly-growing community of 145,000 people
- Provided staff support to the Plan Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, City Council
- Negotiated a critical 20-year extension of the Naperville-Lisle Boundary Agreement
- Managed the successful City-initiated annexation of more than one dozen commercial and industrial properties thereby increasing the tax base of the city
- Served as a Team Member for the *I-88 Tollway and Industrial Areas Corridor Study*
- Served as a Team Member for the *Washington-Hillside Small Area Neighborhood Study*
- Participated in various process mapping and continuous improvement process efforts

- Participated in numerous Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project consultant interviews
- Provided support to the Naperville Development Partnership
- Conducted hundreds of complex development reviews, analyzing subdivision and PUD plats, annexation plats, dedication plats, engineering plans, site plans, landscape plans, building elevation plans, photometric plans, permit plans and architectural plans; prepared hundreds of written reports; gave numerous presentations and provided professional recommendations

Will County Land Use Department

Joliet, Illinois

Planner II

December 1998 to May 2000

- Managed dozens of zoning, subdivision, and site development reviews for projects in unincorporated areas of a rapidly-growing Chicago collar county of nearly 500,000 people
- Provided staff support to the Planning and Zoning Commission and County Board
- Assisted developers and performed residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional development review for conformance with adopted plans, policies, and ordinances
- Served as Staff Liaison to the Interstate I-355 Heritage Corridor Planning Council
- Served as Staff Liaison to the Long Run Creek Watershed Planning Committee

Planner I

March 1996 to December 1998

- Managed dozens of zoning, subdivision, and site development reviews for projects within 144 square miles of unincorporated areas of Will County (four Townships)
- Provided staff support to the Planning and Zoning Commission and County Board

Planning Technician

August 1995 to March 1996

- Completed the *1995 Annual Update* to the *Will County Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP)*

Education:

University of Illinois

Chicago, Illinois

Master of Urban Planning & Policy

May 2000

- Concentration in Physical Planning and International Planning
- Course work in site planning, land use law, statistics, economics, U.S. and world cities, planning methods and technology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Olivette Park Urban Design Workshop, East St. Louis, IL (Spring 1997)
- G.P.A. 3.63/4.0

University of Illinois

Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning

January 1993

- Course work in architecture, business location theory, economics, real estate finance, marketing, land use law, historic preservation and urban design
- G.P.A. 3.81/5.0

Skills:

Organizational Skills

- Project Management; Budgeting; Board Support; Staff Supervision; Meeting Facilitation

Interpersonal Skills

- Public Speaking; Organizational Leadership; Staff Supervision and Mentoring; Team Collaboration; Inter-departmental and Inter-organizational Communication; External/Internal Customer Service; Community Outreach and Public Participation; Negotiation

Technical Skills

- Review of architectural, site and engineering plans; legal documents and subdivision plats; Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint, Outlook and similar programs; Proficient in ESRI ArcMap GIS, ESRI Business Analyst Online, Adobe Acrobat, SunGard NaviLine, New World Systems Logos, Hyland OnBase, Adobe Photoshop

Affiliations:

Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
Member of the American Planning Association (APA)
Past Member of the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition (ILHC) Board of Directors (2007-2009)
Member of Phi Delta Theta Social Fraternity