

Date: Nov. 7, 2018

To: Members of Pataskala City Council

From: Randall B. Ripley

Re: Application for another term on the Planning and Zoning Commission

I would like to be reappointed to the Pataskala Planning and Zoning Commission.

In this memo I will summarize my background very briefly and also speak to the values I think I can help preserve in the deliberations of the Commission, values I think serve the people of Pataskala very well.

I moved to central Ohio in 1967 and have lived here ever since. I lived in Franklin County until 2000, when we moved to our present residence in Pataskala. I was appointed to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission at the beginning of 2002 and have been on the Commission since that time.

My professional career was primarily as a teacher and administrator at Ohio State University.

Naturally, I have learned a great deal about the work of the Commission and the relevant parts of the Pataskala City Code and Comprehensive Plan that help govern our actions.

The Commission works very hard to be fair to applicants, the City itself, and the citizens of Pataskala. I think we have succeeded in pursuing fairness to the different interests that come before the Commission, as well as paying detailed attention to the Pataskala Comprehensive Plan.

The Commission talks through the issues raised by different people in their various applications. Applicants are present, as are other citizens with their own perspectives on the applications. We also take account of various written comments by other relevant City officials. We are also very well served by an excellent Planning and Zoning staff.

The Commission reaches its decisions and recommendations to City Council after as much open discussion as is needed to reach consensus. The final vote of the Commission is virtually always unanimous after we have discussed the relevant issues thoroughly. The very few applications that result in a split vote are handled with extremely civil debate and well-reasoned arguments on both sides.

If I am offered another term on the Commission I would work with my colleagues on the Commission and the staff to continue working together to pursue that same general style of decision-making.