

Councilman Hickin,

Thank you for the questionnaire. I look forward to the interview and continuing serving Pataskala.

Jeni Ashbrook

Pataskala City Council Applicant Questions

1. Is there a cause, event or subject that made you apply for this opening?

I saw that there were 2 open seats on Council, and I thought I would like to represent the people of Pataskala. I want to help continue to strengthen and grow our City while adding to the quality of life for our residents. This is not the first time I have expressed an interest in being on council. I ran against Pat Sager and lost by 11 votes.

2. Please tell me about your complete history of volunteering in your community. What is your philosophy on volunteerism and how it works with a city?

Volunteerism is a big part of my life, as a Pataskala Lions member for 25 years. I live the Lions motto "We Serve". When I had a business on Main Street in the old downtown I worked with the City, the chamber, and other businesses to revitalize the old downtown area. In working with the area businesses, I started the Farmers Market and the Pataskala Lions Lighted Parade which are still being carried on today. I have served on the Pataskala Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for 18 years and have seen many changes. I helped raise money for the Festival of Lights fireworks that we held in December. When the City decided to get out of the recreation business my husband and I helped Pataskala Recreation Association take on the programs and the pool. I have spent many hours in our parks monitoring and cleaning. The Pataskala Lions worked on keeping the community events in the parks like Halloween Bonfire, Easter Egg Hunt, and The Parade which now includes the Cookie Walk. I have volunteered on all these projects. For the past 17 years my husband and I have managed the Pataskala Haunted Forest at Lions park on Refugee Road. It is the Lions biggest fund raiser. For 3 years I chaired the Pataskala Relay for Life and raised money for the American Cancer Society. I am a Past President of the Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce and helped them move from a social group to a business group. As you can see, giving back to my Community is my goal and I continue to find ways to do that.

3. If placed in this position would you intend to run again when the term is up?

Yes. It is my intention to run when the term is up.

4. In your opinion what is the #1 issue that Pataskala is dealing with currently? Why?

In my opinion the number 1 issue is growth and development. We need to find a way to bring commercial development to our city and not fill it up with houses and apartments. Commercial development would bring jobs and lighten the tax burden on the residents.

5. Please describe your philosophy regarding development and how it affects Pataskala.

I feel we need to have more commercial development. Light manufacturing companies will bring jobs, but we need to preserve our rural character as much as possible. That is why the comprehensive plan is so important to follow and continue to update.

6. Generally, the departments of the city are listed below. (excluding Finance) Please rank them in order of importance to you:

Drainage/Water and Sewer/Police & Protection/Parks and Rec./Roads/ Development

1. Police & Protection

2. Roads

3. Development

4. Water and Sewer

5. Parks and Rec.

6. Drainage

7. If the annual city budget was \$100 how much money would you assign to each department (I am roughly looking to see what percentage of 100 you would assign to each subject)

Police & Protection 37%

Roads 27%

Development 13%

Water & Sewer 10%

Parks & Rec.8%

Drainage 5%