

Part 1

1. Aaron Towle

2. Village Board Trustee

Part 2

1. Why do you wish to serve on this board?

My interest in the Village Trustee position is to further give back to the community that has given me so much. Having grown up in Lake Bluff, served our fire department for the past 16 years and as Village Clerk for the past 18 months, I feel that it's time I put my experiences and relationships to work for our great Village. Our current and previous Village Boards have done an amazing job maintaining our values while keeping future issues in mind, and I believe I can be an additional asset to the Board. In addition, I look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with the Trustees whom I've been so fortunate to get to know over the past 18 months. We are a diverse group with different skills and experiences, but ultimately I know we all have the best interests of the Village and its residents in mind.

2. What strengths, skills, and personal attributes will you bring to this board position?

As a municipal worker for over 10 years (not Lake Bluff), I'm keenly aware of the struggles local governments have been facing. Strained budgets, aging infrastructure and increasing employee costs have caused local governments to look closely at what services their residents truly value and expect. I have experienced budget cuts and low staffing and have been a part of an agency that has found ways to increase value for its residents and businesses while decreasing costs for its taxpayers.

Aside from my municipal experiences, my character and motivations are an additional strength that I bring to the Board. My judgment is generally impartial (though I can tell when it's not) and I'm able to see the many sides of each issue. I am mindful in my interactions with others and though I'm an independent thinker, most of my professional life has been in building and working with teams. Most important, though, is integrity. I will never take the trust of public office for granted and will always keep the Village's best interests in mind. These personality traits and my previous municipal experiences will undoubtedly bring a different perspective to the Village Board and I look forward to the opportunity.

3. What do you see as the most pressing issues facing this board?

As a taxpayer, I want to maintain the level of services we have grown to expect, but we need to continue to find additional diverse sources of revenue beyond property taxes. The current Board has done a fantastic job in balancing the need for commercial redevelopment with maintaining the character of the Village.

4. What decision or goal reached by this board are you most pleased with, and why?

The Block 3 decision recently made by the Board was a remarkable display of leadership, but not for the obvious reason. I believe the Board made the right decision to allow the process to work and give everyone involved proper consideration, including the current owner of Block 3. But when the process was beginning to stall, the Board intervened and represented the best interests of the residents. I applaud the Board for having the courage to follow procedure despite strong emotion and for ultimately making the right decision to limit Block 3 to two stories.