

July 29, 2009

City of Manitou Springs
606 Manitou Avenue
Manitou Springs, CO 80829

Mr. Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and members of City Council,

As a follow up to my e-mail sent July 24, 2009, please accept this letter as my formal application for the vacant Ward 3 City Council position. My excitement is only matched by an equal amount of respect for the position of which I seek. Since the late '80s I have been actively involved in the communities where I have lived; Vail, Colorado Springs, and since 1998, Manitou Springs.

For over ten years not only have I been attending Manitou Springs City Council meetings and work sessions, but I have been actively taking part trying to be a responsible citizen and valuable contributor. And not just for those issues concerning me, but for all things Manitou. Sometimes I have been the only citizen present. Most times I have been the last citizen present.

Outside of meetings my community involvement has been consistent and diverse. Be it something small but meaningful; sponsoring my daughter's tile in the ManiZoo or bringing her to give her input on the design of the Soda Springs park playground, something big; starting, putting on or bringing back various running races, or something vital; working to successfully pass our school's 2006 mill levy override.

Indeed, being a co-chair of the mill levy override initiative was perhaps one of the most eye opening experiences for me at the community level. Not just at a nuts-n-bolts level, but in the broader sense of seeing that many of the issues the school faces (attracting teachers and staff, retaining them, and maintaining the school's infrastructure) are the exact same issues that we face at the city level. This point has been driven home to me time and time again. And with the economy and budget such that they are, never have these issues been so closely related or as important.

With regard to these issues, City Council has done so much and I feel strongly that I can work with you, city staff and our fellow citizens to continue the progress during these challenging times. In fact, it's the challenge of our current situation which I find most appealing. However, we all know that not much is accomplished at City Council at the "I" level.

With that in mind, please find attached my résumé and several letters that should convey to you that working with others is something that is not new to me and is something I do a lot.

Respectfully,

Matt Carpenter
2 Via Escondido Valle (Ward 3)
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
719-685-5654