



City of Lawrence

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CITY CLERK'S
OFFICE

LAWRENCE CITY COMMISSION VACANCY APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in serving your City in this capacity. Information including process to fill the vacancy, key dates and additional details are available on the City's website: www.lawrenceks.org/vacancy.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this brief form and other required items listed on the checklist to help provide sufficient information to the City Commission, which will fill the vacancy. Completed applications must be received by the City Clerk's office no later than Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 5 pm in order to be considered. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

PROCESS: Applications will be reviewed by an advisory committee appointed by the City Commission. The committee will forward a list of no more than six candidates to the City Commission, selected from the pool of qualified applicants. The City Commission will then select an individual to fill the City Commission vacancy from qualified applicants, including but not limited to the six candidates provided by the advisory committee. Applicants will be required to participate in the advisory committee and City Commission process.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible, applicants must be a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years old, a qualified elector of the City of Lawrence, and a resident living inside the Lawrence city limits at the time of appointment and during the term duration.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Any and all information provided as part of this process, including but not limited to the application and supporting documentation, is public information and will be made openly available on the city website. The process will be entirely public, including any interviews held with applicants.

Name: **Karl Watson**

Address: **2516 Atchison Ave. | Lawrence KS 66047**

Phone number: **785-550-5793**

E-mail: **kwatson@gpwassociates.com**

Occupation: **CFO, GPW & Associates**

How long have you lived in Lawrence? **25 Years**

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF. Please describe, in 200 words or less, your reasons for seeking a position on the Lawrence City Commission, and why you believe you can represent the citizens of Lawrence as a member of the City Commission.

Our family has been in Lawrence for 25 years. We've raised three children in this community. We've used public and private schools and utilized many city services. Our business has been downtown for fifteen years. Nearly all of our work brings new funds to Lawrence. We've created 11 new professional jobs. I know the importance of solid economic development.

I grew up in a small Kansas farming town with a focus on children and hard work. An engineering degree from KSU has provided a base for unimaginable experiences. It led to an internship in high tech manufacturing that expanded my horizons. Although the plant was in Phoenix' tech corridor it was adjacent to one of my rural fixtures: a cattle sale barn. Learning to design satellite parts adjacent to a cattle auction exemplified my first step into the diversity of business and the world.

I married a first generation American who challenges my thinking and understandings daily. Gina was born in the Philippines and moved to America at 18 months. Asian traditions and values remain her foundation. Graduating in engineering and starting a woman owned engineering practice in Lawrence only further demonstrates how diversity powers our life.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE. Please provide a brief summary of your education, and any training or experience that you possess which would be beneficial to the City Commission position.

- Expert in engineering design and building construction — hundreds of projects nationwide.
 - Building design and construction oversight.
 - City planning and permitting processes nationwide.
 - Building design criteria: cost, maintenance, energy efficiency and occupant safety.
 - Engineering ethics and conflicts of interest.
 - Results focused professional development.
 - Bidding and negotiations; out of scope/contract services.

- Expert in international business, especially China and Canada.
 - Developed framework for international expansion — used by NYSE traded company as an entry model for entities based in 30+ countries.
 - Human relations, social taxes, labor law, labor market trends.
 - Corporate law, business entities, taxes and intellectual property rights.
 - Import regulations and trends.
 - Consumer protection laws and trends.
 - Real estate practices and financial framework.
 - International and domestic logistics.
- Business Owner for 15 years.
 - Professional engineering practice.
 - Direct experience with recruiting for small business knowledge workers.
 - Business licensed in 30+ states.
 - Clients include Kroger and Walmart.
 - Co-owned with Gina Pacumbaba-Watson.
 - Started out of home office and now occupy 7,000 square feet downtown.
- Advanced experience and training in community banking policies and federal regulations.
- MBA from Kansas State University, 1985.
 - Finance focus and banking fellowship.
- BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Kansas State University, 1986
 - Specialized in micro-electronics and systems controls.

WORK HISTORY. Please provide a brief summary of your work history.

START	END	POSITION	INDUSTRY
2000	Current	Owner/CFO GPW & Associates, Lawrence KS	Engineering Consultants
1999	2000	CFO/Controller DiscoverME, Kansas City, KS	Dot com start up
1989	1999	Director of Financial planning and control Payless ShoeSource, Topeka, KS	Retail / Footwear
1988	1989	Laser Printing Product Development Electronic Laser Forms, Detroit, MI	Startup

Work History continued page 4

1987	1988	Bank Consultant and Policy Analyst Sheshunoff & Co., Austin, TX	Consulting
1986	1987	Bank Fellowship/Intern Citizens Savings & Loan, Junction City, KS	Community Banking
1984	1985	Summer Intern Rogers Corporation, Phoenix, AZ	Hi-tech Manufacturing
1976	1982	Farm labor and equipment operator Williams Family Farm, Jetmore, KS	Agriculture
1974	1976	Paperboy Dodge City Daily Globe, Jetmore, KS	Local Delivery Service

PUBLIC OFFICES HELD. Please provide a brief summary of elected service or service as a member of a public board/commission/committee/task force. Please list city, state and dates of service.

None.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT. Please provide a brief summary of your involvement in service to your community.

-
- St. John's the Evangelist church in Lawrence: Finance Committee.
 - Led St. John's Jr. High Study. See attached letter of reference from Mrs. Pat Newton, principal of St. John's Catholic School.
 - Non-profit Childcare Board Member. Helped Stepping Stones child center through a period of difficult growth. Refer to reference from Ms. Shelly Platz, current director and founder.
-

TOP ISSUES. Please describe, in 500 words or less, what you believe are the top issues affecting the City of Lawrence.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

The Lawrence economy is ready for growth. A variety of factors are contributing to a positive outlook. During the last 10 years our community invested in improving city services and infrastructure. The completion of the SLT opens new areas for housing, retail and business. Investment in the Arts District increases our diversity. Investments in existing schools renews vital neighborhoods. A new library provides access to information locally as well as worldwide. We've expanded facilities to support a healthy community and environment. We now have an opportunity to leverage these investment for the benefit of the community.

LEVERAGING OUR COMMUNITY'S STRENGTHS.

Using Lawrence's strengths to attract new individuals, families and business is vital to the city's future and it's tax base. Retaining and drawing professionals from many areas — construction, professional services, teachers, and public safety — ensures a diverse community and a strong labor force. Providing services to retain and support our growing retirement community is also vital.

Improving the effectiveness of city services requires careful planning. The police need improved facilities. Streets need to be improved. Recent investments in revitalizing schools leads to better family life in citywide neighborhoods and to increased home values.

To continue to improve the city must develop a comprehensive capital plan with measurable benefits. It must also develop budgets that reflects the current and future community needs.

Lawrence competes with nearby communities for not only high quality business, but also a labor force that matches a changing environment. Incentives must be used to bridge gaps between short-term needs of business and enterprise.

Central to leveraging past success into an exciting future is leadership continuity. The center piece of the team is Lawrence's City Manager. The city must recruit and support a dynamic city manager.

RECRUITING A CITY MANAGER.

Selecting a new City Manager that enhances and expands Lawrence's strengths. Leadership and clear communications in our fast changing environment makes a bigger difference.

- Understands how to combine community values and strengths to enhance our city.
- Identifies unique assets and culture that make our city a great place to live.
- Excellent public communication to ensure confidence and support.
- Collaborative and cohesive plan improves city goals and investments.
- Broad based economic growth in all our neighborhoods, city wide.

Focusing on the above will ensure a prosperous Lawrence for decades.

YOUR APPROACH TO GOVERNING. Please provide, in 500 words or less, a summary of your approach to handling issues that would come before you as a member of the Lawrence City Commission, and your approach to working with other City Commissioners on these issues.

The central skill to effective public leadership is collaboration. Collaborating with colleagues, and especially those who disagree with me, is a challenge that inspires me on a daily basis. It is a central part of making complex decisions. Only with collaboration will decisions reflect the many facets involved in solving public issues.

Of course careful decision making is only the start. Summarizing and consolidating public opinion in an unbiased way is the next step to establish clear policy statements. This step requires commitment from a small group of highly experienced leaders with a clear focus of doing what is in the best interest of Lawrence as a community.

My individual experiences with an open and collaborative leadership style ensures the commission's continued effectiveness.

YOUR APPROACH TO LAND-USE PLANNING. Please provide, in 500 words or less, a summary of your approach to handling issues that would come before you as a member of the Lawrence City Commission, and your approach to working with other City Commissioners on these issues.

The City Commission must develop policies based on long-term benefits to Lawrence as a growing community. We all benefit from balanced land use. We all appreciate open and attractive areas that support recreation and wildlife. Business and industrial growth is needed to provide better jobs and wages.

My personal experiences adds an important and balanced perspective to the City Commission. I grew up in a farming community with an average population of two people per square mile. I continue to enjoy open areas with plants and wildlife. As a resident of Lawrence for 25 years I've also seen how difficult it is to preserve local green space while ensuring business and industry have reliable infrastructure.

As a long-time citizen, I also understand the importance of making unbiased and impartial decisions. City officers must act in the best interests of Lawrence. My direct involvement with the building industry ensures I have hands on experience with designing, bidding and building a diversity of projects.

My company's client list, however, establishes my independence from the local design and construction industry. Our closest client is in Kansas City and only a few of their projects have been in Kansas and none in Lawrence.

Lawrence's leaders must establish clear direction for Lawrence's land use. A city commission with strong leadership based on experience, diversity and collaboration with our entire community will lead Lawrence into a prosperous future.

APPLICATION MATERIALS CHECKLIST. All applicants must complete the following forms and return application materials to the City Clerk's Office, 3rd Floor of City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street, no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 to be considered for the vacancy.

- Complete Lawrence City Commission Vacancy Application
- Statement of Substantial Interest for Local Office
- Three Letters of Recommendation

STATEMENT OF VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that I am qualified to serve as a member of the Lawrence City Commission. I am a U.S. Citizen, am 18 years of age or older, am a qualified elector of the City of Lawrence, and a resident living inside the Lawrence city limits. I understand that my application and materials will be a public record.

Karl W. [Signature]

Signature

9/9/15

Date

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS FOR LOCAL OFFICE

INSTRUCTIONS. This statement must be completed by each person required to do so by K.S.A. 75-4301a. Upon completion, mail or hand deliver your completed statement to the office where you filed your declaration of candidacy. If appointed to fill a vacancy in a local elective office, file this form where your predecessor filed for office.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

A. IDENTIFICATION:

Watson, Karl A.

Last Name	First Name	MI
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Pacumbaba-Watson, Gina T.

Spouse's Name

2516 Atchison Avenue

Number & Street Name, Apartment Number, Rural Route, or P.O. Box Number

Lawrence, Kansas 66047

City, State, Zip Code

785-841-4523

Home Phone

785-865-2332 or 785-550-5793

Business Phone

B. OFFICE SOUGHT, HELD OR APPOINTED TO:

List Name of Office

City Commission, At Large

Position

District

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Date received (Official use only)

C. OWNERSHIP INTERESTS: List any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, trust, joint venture and every other business interest, including land used for income, and specific stocks, mutual funds or retirement accounts in which either you or your spouse has owned within the preceding 12 months a legal or equitable interest exceeding \$5,000 or 5%, whichever is less. Please attach additional pages if necessary to complete this section.
 If you have nothing to report in Section "C", check here ____.

BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION OF INTERESTS HELD	HELD BY WHOM
1. GPW & Associates, LLC 1001 New Hampshire St, Lawrence KS 66044	Professional Services	100% ownership	Gina and Karl
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

D. GIFTS IN THE FORM OF GOODS OR SERVICES: List any person, business or combination of businesses from which you or your spouse either individually or collectively, have received in the preceding 12 months, without reasonable and valuable consideration, goods or services having an aggregate value of \$500 or more.
 If you have nothing to report in Section "D", check here no.

NAME OF PERSON OR BUSINESS FROM WHOM GIFT RECEIVED	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY:
1.		
2.		
3.		

E. RECEIPT OF COMPENSATION: List all places of employment in the last calendar year, and any other businesses from which you or your spouse received \$2,000 or more in compensation (salary, thing of value, or economic benefit conferred on you or your spouse in return for services rendered, or to be rendered), which was reportable as taxable income on your federal income tax returns.

1. YOUR PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR.

If you have nothing to report in Section "E"1, check here ____.

	NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.	GPW & Associates, LLC	1001 New Hampshire St, Lawrence	Engineering/Consulting
2.			

2. SPOUSE'S PLACE(S) OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR.

If you have nothing to report in Section "E"2, check here ____.

	NAME OF BUSINESS	ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.	GPW & Associates, LLC	1001 New Hampshire St. Lawrence	Engineering/Consulting
2.			

F. OFFICER OR DIRECTOR OF AN ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS: List any organization or business in which you or your spouse hold a position as officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor at the time of filing, irrespective of the amount of compensation received for holding such position. Please insert additional pages if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "F", check here ____.

	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	POSITION HELD	HELD BY WHOM
1.	Lawrence Memorial Hospital 325 Maine St, Lawrence, KS 66044	Secretary--Board of Trustees	Gina Pacumbaba-Watson
2.	GPW & Associates, LLC, 1001 New Hampshire St. Lawrence	CEO/President	Gina Pacumbaba-Watson
3.	GPW & Associates, LLC 1001 New Hampshire St. Lawrence	CFO	Karl Watson
4.			
5.			

G. RECEIPT OF FEES AND COMMISSIONS: List each client or customer who paid fees or commissions to a business or combination of businesses from which fees or commissions you or your spouse received an aggregate of \$2,000 or more in the preceding calendar year. *The phrase "client or customer" relates only to businesses or the combination of businesses.* In the case of a partnership, it is the partner's proportionate share of the business, and hence of the fee, which is significant, without regard to the expenses of the partnership. An individual who receives a salary as opposed to portions of fees or commissions is generally not required to report under this provision. Please insert additional pages if necessary to complete this section.

If you have nothing to report in Section "G", check here ____.


	NAME OF CLIENT / CUSTOMER	ADDRESS	RECEIVED BY
1.	BRR Architecture	6700 Antioch Plaza Suite#300, Merriam KS 66204	Gina & Karl
2.	SGA Design	1437 S Boulder Ave Suite #550, Tulsa OK 74119	Gina & Karl
3.	Moody Nolan Architects	300 Spruce St Suite #300, Columbus OH 43215	Gina & Karl
4.	Naos Design Group	4949 S Syracuse St Suite#460 Denver CO 80237	Gina & Karl
5.	Norr, Inc	719 Griswold St Suite#1000, Detroit MI 48226	Gina & Karl
6.	PB2 Architecture	710 W Roselawn Dr, Rogers AR 72756	Gina & Karl
7.	Kroger Columbus Division	4111 Executive Parkway, Westerville OH 43081	Gina & Karl
8.	Steve Rabinoff Architects	58-12 Francis Lewis Blvd, Flushing NY 11364	Gina & Karl
9.	Dillons Region	2700 E 4th Street, Hutchison KS 67501	Gina & Karl
10.			
11.	Note: net fees are distributed to Karl and Gina		
12.			

H. DECLARATION:

I, Karl A. Watson, declare that this statement of substantial interests (including any accompanying pages and statements) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete statement of all of my substantial interests and other matters required by law. I understand that the intentional failure to file this statement as required by law or intentionally filing a false statement is a class B misdemeanor.

9/9/2015

Date



Signature of Person Making Statement

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PAGES ____.



September 9, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am Patricia Newton, principal of St. John Catholic School in Lawrence. I am writing in support of Karl Watson's bid for the City Commission.

I have known Karl for approximately fifteen years as a school parent and a leader in the school. During the past fifteen years, Karl has served on a number of school committees, councils, and boards. He was asked to serve because of his leadership qualities and his ability to make data driven decisions. In the past fifteen years, St. John School has experienced several transitions from a single campus, to two campuses, and back to a single campus and school. There were many decisions to make during these changes and I relied on Karl's wisdom and expertise to navigate these challenges.

It is crucial to select a city commission with an excellent track record of financial accountability. In 2003, Karl coordinated our school benefit auction which netted approximately \$100,000. Karl was responsible for the accounting of operating costs and donations. At all times during the auction process, Karl was professional and transparent in his financial responsibility. Karl has also served on our parish/school finance council and was instrumental in establishing appropriate fiduciary procedures. I feel confident that Karl would bring a professional and honest approach to the finances of Lawrence.

I believe Karl would be an asset to our community. I believe the people of Lawrence would be well represented by his ability to make tough decisions based on facts.

I know that Karl loves this community and would dedicate himself to the position of city commissioner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Newton". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Patricia Newton, Principal
St. John Catholic School
1208 Kentucky Street
Lawrence, KS 66044



931 Massachusetts St., Lawrence, KS, 66044
P: 785-865-0876 • F: 785-841-1933
email: lora@aumarche.com

September 2, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure that we submit this Letter of Recommendation in support of Karl Watson and his desire to run for City Commissioner for the City of Lawrence.

The three of us, all long-time Downtown business owners, have had the honor of getting to know Karl and his family over the past many years as customers who frequent our shops. Through our many visits with him, this is what we believe to be true about Karl:

- Karl is a strong proponent of Downtown Lawrence
 - He and his family consistently shop locally
 - He is invested in local businesses, such as ours, succeeding
 - He and his wife support and contribute to the vitality and diversity of Downtown by operating their successful engineering firm in Downtown Lawrence
- Karl is a giving and thoughtful person, and a good listener – one who will consider the many sides of the various situations presented to City Commissioners
- Karl is an analytical thinker and believes in collaboration – also traits that we believe will contribute to his success as a City Commissioner
- Karl has strong family values

In talking with Karl over the last few days about his desire to run for the open City Commissioner seat, we have learned additionally that he will bring a wealth of varied experiences to the table. His life has included agriculture, manufacturing, banking, retail and the design/construction industries. Karl is well-rounded, intelligent, compassionate, and is invested in the City of Lawrence and its well-being as a leading community in Kansas.

We are honored to support Karl with this Letter of Recommendation and we look forward to seeing him have the opportunity to be of service to the City of Lawrence as a Commissioner.

Sincerely,

Lora Wiley
Owner, Au Marché

Linda Lester
Owner, The Etc. Shop

Leslie Ahlert
Owner, Stitch On Needlework Shop

September 6, 2015

Dear Advisory Committee and City Commissioners,

I would like to endorse my support for Karl Watson who is applying for a seat on Lawrence's City Commission. Karl has above average listening skills, a unique ability to collaborate with people of varying backgrounds and a broad base of experiences to draw from. As the director of Stepping Stones, Inc., I first met Karl over 20 years ago when he and his wife, Gina, were expecting their first child. We provided child care and an early education program for all three of their children between 1995 and 2010. When they first started at the center, Karl was commuting to Payless ShoeSource in Topeka and Gina worked at Hallmark in Kansas City. By their third child, they owned their own business which is located in downtown Lawrence.

Karl served two years as a volunteer on our organization's Board of Directors. At that time, he was a new parent with a demanding job although that did not stop him from volunteering his services and taking the time to learn about the complexities of our not-for-profit environment. Coming from a large corporation, it could have been difficult to understand our non-profit business but Karl listened to my concerns, asked questions regarding our organization's challenges and presented several options that he modified from his own experiences so that they were appropriate for our child care center. While on our board, Karl was an integral part of evaluating how increases in the federal minimum wage would impact our budget so that we could predict and justify increases needed in our monthly fees. He also proposed a more structured evaluation process that was implemented to review and determine pay increases for our 50 part-time and full-time staff. These models were helpful as our small business grew in size professionally and they are still being used at the center today.

Looking back on the years I've known Karl, I feel his integrity, his willingness to listen and collaborate, as well as his ability to make effective decisions demonstrate that he is an ideal candidate for a seat on Lawrence's City Commission. I encourage you to utilize his many skills in this leadership position.

Sincerely,



Shelly Platz
(785)843-5919