

DAVID A. HENKE

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January 16, 2020

City of Milwaukee Common Council
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street, Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: Appointment of David Henke to serve as the Chief Information Officer by the Mayor

Dear Members of the Common Council:

With my nomination by the Mayor to serve as Chief Information Officer for the remainder of the 2016-2020 term, I wanted to express my interest in meeting with you individually prior to the confirmation hearings to introduce myself, provide some background about myself and my experience, and answer any preliminary questions or concerns that you may have. In addition to the attached resume, below is a brief background about myself and my experience with the City of Milwaukee.

I was born and grew up in the City of Milwaukee, moving to northern Wisconsin with my family after completing grade school. After college and initial employment in the private sector, I moved back to the City of Milwaukee in 2007 to live, work, and raise my family. I believe I can provide a balanced perspective, both as someone who grew up in the City and is a current resident but who has also lived in other areas of the state and country, as well as someone with both private and public sector experience.

I started working for the City of Milwaukee in 2007 as the Department of Public Works Telecommunications Analyst – Project Leader, responsible for the City’s data network. The two and a half years in this role provided exposure to the City’s diverse range of critical 24x7x365 networking needs from parking payment systems, WaterWorks controls systems, and public safety radio backbone connections, to networks for 911 operations.

In 2010, following my manager’s retirement I was promoted to DPW IT Manager, additionally responsible for overseeing the City’s phone system and all DPW computing systems and applications. In this role, I was able to guide the desktop, server, and applications environments. I also worked to develop the annual budgets, RFPs, and department staffing. In my three years in this role, I consolidated all IT operations and staff from the DPW divisions under a single IT group in DPW-Administration. I also worked with DER to develop a standard tiered seniority structure for computing support staff, which was later adopted by ITMD. Additionally, I oversaw several major systems upgrades including the primary server domain, database, phone, and voicemail systems.

In 2013, DPW IT operations, in addition to multiple other department IT operations, were consolidated in ITMD under direction of the CIO. At the time of the 2013 budget planning, I had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Barrett and he asked at the time, “Can you make this work?” I said “yes”, and with my efforts and Nancy Olson’s direction and oversight, I believe that the consolidation of DPW IT has been a success.

As part of this transition, my current role as Telecommunications Manager has focused on development and operation of the City’s phone and data networks. Since these systems touch all of the City, I’m still

able to provide my experience on all aspects of IT within ITMD and throughout the City. This includes planning and prioritizing projects through the City's annual cycle of snow operations, tax collection, elections, potholes, assessments, budgeting, and summer festivals. This also includes sharing my background with others for various hiring, RFP, and other initiatives.

Currently, my focus is on preparing the City's IT systems for the 2020 DNC in my role as ITMD DNC coordinator, assisting with projects like the Smart Kiosk deployment, and in my primary role as telecommunications manager making sure the computing network is as secure as possible for smooth and uninterrupted operation during the 2020 DNC.

I believe I have a wealth of background on City IT operations and would be honored to offer that experience and knowledge serving as CIO in the coming months to keep the current systems and initiatives moving forward for the remainder of the 2016-2020 term.

Respectfully,

David A. Henke

Enclosure