



Board of Aldermen Request for Action

MEETING DATE: 10/21/2025

DEPARTMENT: Administration

AGENDA ITEM: Appointments to the Planning and Zoning Commission

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION

A roll call vote will be needed for the nomination.

SUMMARY

Reappointment of John Chevalier to Planning and Zoning Commission and appointment of a new citizen member Deb Dotson. The Mayor will make the nomination and the Board will vote.

The new process for the Mayor to nominate potential commissioners to the Board requires all applicants to graduate from the Citizen's Academy. Following the recent Citizen's Academy graduation, both Deb Dotson and John Chevalier both graduated and are being nominated. Ms. Dotson will be replacing John Wallace who resigned his term which is scheduled to end in October of 2028. John Chevalier is currently a member of the Planning Commission and his new term would expire in 2029.

PREVIOUS ACTION

Deb Dotson was first appointed in 2018. After a short break, she is being appointed to replace John Wallace, who resigned due to a move. John Chevalier's current term began after he left the Board of Aldermen.

POLICY ISSUE

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ☐ Ordinance | ☐ Contract |
| ☐ Resolution | ☐ Plans |
| ☐ Staff Report | ☐ Minutes |
| ☒ Other: Resumes of appointee(s) | |



PROFILE

Results-driven professional with extensive experience in telecommunications network planning, engineering, and project management. Proven leadership capabilities demonstrated through three terms as an elected Alderman for the City of Smithville and current service as Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Known for strategic thinking, effective communication, and a strong ability to manage complex infrastructure projects and municipal initiatives.

HOBBIES

Guitar & Music
Video Games
Running & Fitness

JOHN CHEVALIER

PMP, PMI-ACP

Telecommunications Professional

EDUCATION

MidAmerica Nazarene

Bachelor of Arts - Management

Smithville Citizens Academy

2025 Class

EXPERIENCE

Alderman - Ward 2

Three Term elected official. Highlights include Downtown Streetscape renovation, Increased Economic Development, and Expanded Parks and Recreation Amenities.

Smithville Planning and Zoning Commission - Chairman

Presides over Planning and Zoning Commission meetings, sign off approved development plans, facilitate open dialog between city and impacted residents.

Senior Network Engineer

Develop and Implement Telecommunications projects which include network infrastructure, features, and issue correction. Project experience includes traditional and agile based methodology. Additional experience in process improvement initiatives.

Network Planner

Create and implement complex network capacity upgrades. Highlights include multiple new technology conversions and managing \$200m+ capital budgets.

PATENTS & CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management Professional - PMI

Agile Certified Practitioner - PMI

Patent – Security Process Improvements in Wireless Communication Networks

Application No: 19/261,461

Patent ID: 83119260 (Pending)

DEBRA J DOTSON

WORK/VOLUNTEER NON PROFIT EXPERIENCE:

*Partnership printing job shop Indiana. Accounting, scheduling, graphic arts, edited monthly county magazine, advertising sales, inventory, customer service.

*Insurance: Large commercial insurance corporations. Personal/commercial lines. Risk Management Services. Investment. Blue Sky, personal lines/property licensing. (Not active)

*Real Estate: Residential sales, investment, trends, demographics and sensitive areas requiring discretion. MO/KS licenses. Brookside, Smithville and Springfield offices. Managed a Colorado Resort property for a private REIT. All aspects. Insurance, maintenance, taxes, rentals. Negotiated a profitable sale for partners. Retired, licenses not active.

*Big Brothers/Big Sisters Indiana. Secretary and President. Organized events, extensive fund raising. Worked with a few special cases requiring discretion.

*Tri County Mental Health Center. Indiana. Participated with others to raise awareness and remove stigma surrounding mental health issues. Wrote articles promoting communication. Worked with a suicide prevention hotline exploratory committee.

*HOA Officer/Director. 2018-December 2024. Budget development, maintain appropriate insurance coverages. Worked with vendors/contractors to promote best practices for overall maintenance of amenities. Design Review Committee. 3 person team to review residential exterior/structural/landscape projects submissions. Clarify City Codes for common DRC submissions. Helped develop simplified submission process.

*City of Smithville:

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee: Team participation to research solid waste disposal and recycling options.

**Prior Planning and Zoning Commissioner and Secretary. MARC Government Training Institute Planning Commissioner Essentials certificate of achievement awarded 12/12/2022.

**Strategic Planning Initiative: Actively participated in breakout groups and community meetings to promote the best interests of Smithville. Focused on Smithville's need for diversified housing and appropriate zoning.

**Participated in the 2023 Senior Citizens and Community Center advisory committee.

**2025 Citizens Academy. Understanding how departments work in detail... functions and dependencies...provides fact based information.