

CHRISTOPHER R. JONES

August 7, 2023

RTM Meeting

Good afternoon, members of the RTM.

I am currently on vacation and regrettably cannot deliver my public comment to you in person.

I respectfully request your endorsement for the Republican Police Commission position. My experience on various local boards and my activity within the Waterford community make me the best fit for this position, and I ask that you consider my request.

Waterford has been my home since 1987. I have been a long-standing member of the Jordan Fire Department, served on the Waterford Week Committee, and was elected to the Board of Education in 2016. I am a member of several local boards that impact Waterford citizens, like the Juvenile Review Board.

Words cannot express the passion I have to be named to the Waterford Police Commission. As an African American man, I feel it is vital to have a commission that includes someone with the skillset, experience, education, and love for our community that I have. It is also critical to have a diverse commission; gender, skin color, age, skill sets, and previous board experience are all important qualities to look for when comprising a board. The current board doesn't offer a lot of diversity, and my presence on it is a step in the right direction.

Because the Police Commission is a civilian oversight board, my qualifications make me an asset. I've worked hard while serving on many boards to create transparency and accountability procedures. I strongly believe in taking care of people, including offering mental health, finance, and education support as needed. My greatest strength is my ability to work with all people in a bipartisan and collegiate manner. Judgments made by me are based on facts and evidence. I do my research, and I look out for the greater best interest.

I understand I will need to resign as a member of the Board of Education if appointed to the Police Commission. Please know I've attended 97% of the Waterford BOE meetings and 95% of the Juvenile Review Board meetings while serving. It is rare for me to miss meetings, and I take my roles quite seriously. I've enjoyed my time as a BOE member, especially the initiative to reduce energy costs in all school buildings. However, I am seeking a new opportunity to use my skill set and knowledge to better our community.

Your support for me as the Republican Police Commission member is greatly appreciated. I hope you'll refer to my resume and cover letter for specifics about my qualifications. Thank you for your time.

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