

City of Asheville  
**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**  
Application Form

**APPLICANTS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND SEVERAL MEETINGS OF A BOARD PRIOR TO APPLYING AND/OR APPOINTMENT TO A BOARD**

Name of board or commission(s): City Council

Your name: Charlie Hume Home Phone #: 828-606-6042

Street address: 1031 Columbine Rd. City: Asheville Zip Code: 28803

Mailing address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Eaton Corp.

Your position: Engineer Office Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of City  County \_\_\_\_\_ Race Whit. Cauc.\* Sex M \* Age 42 \*

Are you a United States Citizen (circle one)? Yes or No

Residence location (check one): Central \_\_\_\_\_ North \_\_\_\_\_ South  East \_\_\_\_\_ West \_\_\_\_\_

How did you become aware of the opening? \_\_\_\_\_ Webpage \_\_\_\_\_ Current Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ eNews \_\_\_\_\_  
Government Channel \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ Radio \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Agenda  Other

Please indicate the area(s) of expertise that you can bring to the above board(s), and then in detail list education, experience, reasons for your interest, and other factors that support your interest in serving (use additional sheets if necessary). Expertise:  Legal  Technical  Fundraising  Community Contacts  
 Business Management (Financial)  Business Management (Operational)  Public Speaking

- See attached resume -  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:**  
Maggie Burleson, City Clerk  
Post Office Box 7148  
Asheville, N.C. 28802-7148

E-Mail: [mburleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:mburleson@ashevillenc.gov)  
Telephone: 259-5601  
Fax #: 259-5499

Signature: Charlie Hume

Date: 11/25/2008

E-Mail: Charlie.hume@bellsouth.net

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

\* This information is requested for the sole purpose of assuring that a cross section of the community is appointed.

# CHARLIE HUME

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## PROFILE

Eighteen years of professional experience with a background in civic and technical leadership, program management, customer support, and electronic design. Resourceful and organized with proven ability as a problem solver. Adaptable, logical, self-motivated thinker who can work in a variety of situations. Broad-minded, eager learner with excellent interpersonal skills.

## CIVIC EXPERIENCE

### President/Treasurer

Biltmore Park Neighborhood Association – Asheville, North Carolina

- Numerous duties and projects to include contract negotiation, legal remedies, traffic calming, public safety, planning and development, financial oversight, budget creation, managing election processes, infrastructure maintenance, establishing and building community relationships, city/county government liaison, and organizational restructuring.

### Community Advocate

City of Asheville, North Carolina

- Advocate and organizer for community on various issues affecting citizen welfare.

### City Committee - South Asheville Representative

Citizens Police Advisory Committee Member – Asheville, North Carolina

### Community Website Developer

Volunteer

- Established and designed several non-profit websites: Fealgood Foundation, Biltmore Park Association, Biltmore Park Swim Club, Let Asheville Vote, Asheville Rugby Football Club

## MILITARY EXPERIENCE

### Sergeant

United States Air Force

- Installed, maintained, troubleshoot, and repaired various electronic guidance and control systems on military aircraft.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Account Engineer

Eaton Corp

- Establish, develop, and maintain partnerships with present and potential customers by effectively employing skills with the art of salesmanship, application engineering, and product knowledge.
- Understand customer business models/markets, and competitive products to achieve long term objectives.
- Drive continuous improvement efforts in business processes and electronic tools.
- Interact effectively in a matrix environment to include marketing, operations, engineering, sales, and customer base.

### Director Hardware Engineering

MBTech Systems

- Provided technical leadership and management within organization. Served multifaceted role that required communicating at varying levels of technical detail with manufacturing, purchasing, vendors, contractors, strategic partners, distributors, VAR's, and end-customers.
- Managed all aspects of product lifecycle to include conception, development, production, integration, and engineering services. End products were compact information appliances that serviced the retail industry.

- Supported and strengthened customer relationships by creating and providing value-add services pre/post sales.
- Analyzed market trends to ensure that next-generation technologies were consistent with corporate vision and customer needs while balancing resources, cost, and timeliness.
- Participated as an integral part of the management team responsible for developing strategic plans to drive short-term and long-term business growth.

### **Senior Hardware Design Engineer**

Unicomp

- Served as program manager to key OEM partner and top revenue-generating account.
- Oversaw all phases of product development cycle. Responsibilities included preparing technical specifications, circuit design, board layout, prototyping, testing, documentation, regulatory compliance (FCC, FDA), safety certification (UL/CSA), product improvements, and sustaining duties.
- Designed 8 and 32-bit embedded systems using CAE tools such as PSPICE, Viewlogic, ORCAD, and PADS. End devices included mini-kiosk terminals and a wireless material replenishment system targeted at the commercial/industrial markets.
- Supplied technical support and training to internal and external customers.

### **Hardware Design Engineer**

Northern Technologies

- Managed and designed multiple products for the Transient Voltage Surge Suppression (TVSS) market. Primary responsibilities included product definition, circuit design, PCB layout, industrial design, development, testing, safety certification (UL/CSA), regulatory compliance (FCC), and manufacturing liaison.
- Provided product support which included demonstrations, presentations, training, creating and maintaining documentation, design modifications, and troubleshooting for both internal and external customers.
- Designed and initiated construction of a high voltage/high current test lab.

### **Sustaining Product Engineer**

Itronix

- Sustained rugged laptop computer products through end of life. Principle duties included failure analysis, hardware redesign, testing, quality control, field service support, and maintaining safety/regulatory compliance.

### **Design Engineer**

Matrox

- Designed various logic blocks for an image processing ASIC using VHDL.
- Performed and developed test plans, chip level simulation, debugging, timing verification, and logic synthesis using such CAE tools as Synopsys and Vantage on a Sun system platform.

### **Engineer**

Motorola

- Designed receiver for prototypical 900 MHz communication system.

### **Engineer**

Tyco Electronics

- Programmed C routine to control interface between user and Analogic AT 6400 waveform digitizer.
- Created and coded Graphical User Interface (GUI) for Digital Loop Tracer.
- Designed and constructed analog/digital circuitry for magnetic Tag Response Analyzer.

## EDUCATION

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY - Tallahassee, Florida

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY - Miami, Florida  
Bachelor of Science Degree, Electrical Engineering

1) What motivates you to apply for this position?

Asheville consistently appears in national rankings because it embodies many of the attributes and characteristics people desire when searching for a place to visit or call home. I believe that one such attribute is the diversity of its citizens which helps give our city a unique quality that we all define in our own way.

The challenge is that with diversity come varying philosophies, sometimes vast, on how best to manage the many issues that Asheville faces today and tomorrow. As with most situations where solidarity must be reconciled with dissimilar views, compromise is both a reality and a necessity. As a result, I feel there is a need for a moderate, balanced voice on City Council and this is what motivates me to seek this position.

2) Where do you fall on the conservative-liberal spectrum in terms of fiscal and social policy?

Throughout my entire adult life I have strived to deliberate the pros and cons surrounding individual issues and not rely on any one political philosophy to guide my actions. As a result, I tend to not fit neatly into any of the established groupings or labels commonly used in our society such as Conservative, Liberal, Democrat, or Republican. In an effort to offer some insight as to how I would approach fiscal or social policy decisions, please allow me to share with you some personal experiences and beliefs.

As a child, my family lived paycheck to paycheck. Neither of my parents graduated high school and both were blue collar workers. Many of our home furnishings came from the neighbors curb or the local landfill. Paying the bills was always a challenge and I quickly learned the value of a dollar. As a result, the idea of not spending money unless you had it was embedded in me at an early age. To this day, I still practice fiscal discipline and frequently exercise delayed gratification when purchasing goods or services. If selected to serve on Council, I would carry forward these same tenets and carefully consider the use of each tax dollar.

I value responsibility, both individual and communal. As an individual, this means taking ownership of your actions, and accepting the consequences. With regard to the community, it involves serving a greater good and maintaining an awareness of the environment and people around you.

When interacting with others I strive to employ a nonjudgmental philosophy. Rather than label the opinions of others as right or wrong I prefer to perceive them as different and maintain an open mind when listening.

Hopefully, these brief thoughts provide a better understanding of where I might fall in the conservative-liberal spectrum.

3) In your eyes, what should be the top 2 or 3 priorities our City Council should be focused on in the upcoming year and why?

Economic development and resolving the water dispute should be top priorities for City Council in the upcoming year.

If City revenue continues to decrease, it will be increasingly difficult to provide services, implement capital improvement projects, retain quality staff, and effectively plan for the future. We must take a leadership position within the community on stimulating the local economy while remembering to embrace our regional strengths. The Hub Plan comes to mind as a good framework regarding this effort.

It's in the best interest of both the City and County to reach resolution on the water issue and establish a working relationship. As economic pressures continue to negatively impact both municipal budgets we should be looking for ways to eliminate duplication and overlap in our service base while leveraging economies of scale. These mutual cost cutting measures will benefit both the city and county taxpayer but only if we can find a way to put the water issue behind us and look forward.

4) What do you consider the most crucial problem, need, or cause for the citizens of Asheville? How would you approach its resolution or champion the cause?

The ability of our city government and elected officials to respond in an effective and timely manner, to the multitude of pressures facing Asheville, is our citizen's most crucial need. In mid-October I polled approximately fifty business/community leaders and asked what they thought were the five greatest challenges facing Asheville over the next 3-5 years. The variety of opinions is illustrated by an extensive list.

Without outlining the fine details and in no particular order, the top responses include the following: leadership, regional cooperation, budget, economic development, water resolution, I-26 connector, education, growth management, infrastructure, safeguarding Asheville's character, social inclusiveness, law enforcement, transportation, and affordable housing.

As a result, our biggest hurdle will be finding solutions to our long-term needs while wrestling with the current reality of a shrinking budget. To be effective in this endeavor, I believe our government needs to think proactively and focus on consensus building, so that Asheville can move forward in a unified direction; I am ready to champion this cause.

5) 2008-09 and 2009-10 fiscal years will be financially tough for the city. What will be your top funding priorities and what would you like to see reduced to balance the budget?

My top priority would be to preserve funding for essential services. What constitutes an 'essential service' is open to interpretation but as a general rule I would tend to include services which maintain social, economic and environmental viability. Several examples include public safety, water utility, infrastructure maintenance, and sanitation. Once the city is able to confidently fund the basic necessities we can consider funding additional services that are designed to promote and enhance the overall quality of life within the community.

As for balancing the budget, I would suggest putting everything on the table and reexamining the process by which we currently provide services. We should question the status quo and strive to think outside the box. We can explore ways to increase efficiency by engaging and empowering the entire city staff. After all, it is they who are best positioned to identify areas for improvement and offer creative ideas.

In addition, we should target for reduction any budget line items that do not provide value. As an example, the debt service on our bond obligations is an encumbrance that provides no direct benefit to our citizens. With the current economic downturn and lower interest rates in the marketplace, this is an opportunity to restructure this debt and put our tax dollars to better use.