City of Asheville
City Council Vacancy Application Form

Your name: Corey Bell Home Phone #: (843) 327-1050

Street Address: 111 Meadow Lake Rd City: Asheville Zip Code: 28803

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Employer: Williams Scotsman

Position: Area Sales Manager Office Phone # (912) 425-3352

Resident of City of Asheville (required): ● Yes ☐ No

Registered Voter in the City of Asheville (required): ● Yes ☐ No

Race: White Sex: Male Age: 30

Residence location (check one) Central ____ North ● South ____ East ____ West ____

Additional Information Required:

1. Resume
2. ½ page response to the essay questions below: (not attached)

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Corey Ashton Bell
Key: 69d995faaf6d01d33d35162fad62a3cf

Applicant Signature
Date: 08/14/2020

All applications and attachments must be
Returned by **Noon, Thursday, August 20**, 2020 to:

Maggie Burleson, City Clerk
PO Box 7148
Asheville, NC 28802
Email: mburleson@ashevillenc.gov
Phone: 828-259-5601

Corey A. Bell

• 111 Meadow Lake Rd. Asheville, NC 28803 • Cellular: (843) 327-1050 • E-Mail: COREYBELL1123@GMAIL.COM

Area Sales Manager • Operations Manager • Nuclear Electrician • Communications Specialist

Results driven and innovative Area Sales Manager with a record of leadership and ability to perform under high stress situations. Consistently recognized for work ethic, level of knowledge, and organizational skills. Proven record of identifying opportunities for employees and developing them to better serve themselves, the business and community as a whole. Established training to improve overall functionality of the workplace and increase employee level of knowledge. Transcribed, launched and managed state of the art policies and instructions for efficient and effective maintenance items and work standards dating back to service in the United States Navy.

Ready to transition knowledge, skills and abilities to continue to learn and grow. Better myself, my family and my community by serving on the Coty Council for the City of Asheville.

Areas of Qualification

Management

• Evaluations • Time and Labor• Inventory Control • Leadership • Project Management • Organizational Skills • Quality Control • Technical Writing • Principles of Supervision • Industrial Safety • Grievance Filing • Sexual Harassment • Stress Management • Business Organization and Management • Professional Selling and Sales Management • Principles of Management • Public Speaking • Fundamentals of Accounting for Managers • Public Relations • Grant Writing • HR Management • Economic Analysis • Public Policy Processes and Strategies • Budgeting and Financial Management in the Nonprofit Sector

Technical

•Preventive Maintenance• AC and DC Circuits • Microprocessors • Solid State Devices and Circuits Nuclear Physics • Heat Transfer and Fluid Flow • Nuclear Reactor Engineering • Protection Technology • Blueprint Reading • Electrical Systems Maintenance • Williams Scotsman SWIs • Lean Principles • Generator Theory and Operation

Professional Experience

Williams Scotsman Houston, TX

Area Sales Manager/Operations Manager/Branch Operations Leader 2016 to Present

- Implements strategic direction for the Area by managing a team of Territory Sales Managers to hit or exceed sales targets and execute account and territory management strategies that facilitate project solutions and long-term customer relationships.
- Maintains excellent service standards, responds efficiently to customer inquiries, strives for high customer satisfaction and excels in Core Values of Collaboration, Empowerment, Excellence, and Innovation.
- Works across North and South Carolina with local municipalities to follow local, state and federal regulations for zoning and permit applications.
- Assisted in developing an understanding and meeting of expectations for Operational KPIs throughout 21 branches.
- Responsible for the overall direction, coordination, and evaluation of the contractors and operational personnel to perform duties in a safe and efficient manner. Approximately 60 personnel.
- Leadership – Exhibits confidence in self and others; Inspires and motivates others to perform well; Accepts feedback from others and takes steps to utilize for future reference; Gives appropriate recognition to others.

- Strong Customer focus. Visited multiple customer's sites and attended multiple bid meetings to answer questions relating to the product while adhering to their needs. Innovative in floorplan designs that would be a minimum financial impact to both customer and Williams Scotsman.
- Managed Houston through a tumultuous year including larger public events such as the Super Bowl and lead recovery efforts and branch rebuilding following Hurricane Harvey.
- Organized Charity Golf Tournaments and Cancer Walks raising tens of thousands of dollars

Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL

Access Controls Security Supervisor 2014 to 2015

- Wrote SOP for the first line of base security to improve efficiency and effectiveness of customer support, secure installation access and have an updated plan for any breakdown in communication guaranteeing back up for employees and executive personnel.
- Mentored and assisted in transition of active duty sailors to civilian lifestyles to empower junior sailors in pursuing their dreams and determining actions that could help them achieve set goals.
- Evaluated and managed 25 employees to include documenting time cards, customer interactions, procedural compliance, professionalism, teamwork, character building, and leadership abilities while fostering growth in the workplace.
- In order to maintain the highest level of communication between all employees I established and lead biweekly meetings updating all employees on all actions ongoing in department.
- Established weekly departmental training to ensure all employees were up to date on current practices and policies regarding systems such as Consolidated Law Enforcement Operational Center, Electronic Visitor Systems, Flight line badges and activation, etc.

SSBN 732 USS Alaska, Kings Bay, GA

Nuclear Electricians Mate 2009 to 2014

- Work Center Supervisor
- Submarine Nuclear Propulsion Plant Operator
- Assistant Safety Officer
- Achieved the ranking of Petty Office First Class in 4 years 11 months when Navy wide average to achieve similar ranking is 8.2 years.
- Directed 15 sailors in troubleshooting and repair while coordinating all PMs under OSHA and SORM guidelines having no marked deficiencies.
- Recognized by Operational Reactor Safeguard Examination board as demonstrating a superior level of knowledge and being the best watch stander on the waterfront.
- Managed removal, training, and installation of a key ship power component while overseeing three shifts onboard resulting in the rewriting of a Navy wide instruction for how it is to properly be done.
- Qualified on all submarine systems and damage control operations.

Education

- Naval Nuclear Propulsion Training Command as certified Nuclear Plant operator, Goose Creek, SC. Bachelor Business Administration, Berkeley College, White Plains, New Jersey.
- Masters of Public Affairs, University of Missouri
- Masters of Economics, University of Missouri, expected graduation 2020 (Online)

Volunteer Experience

- Experienced in Grant Writing for Meals on Wheels in Columbia, Missouri
- Volunteer for Meals on Wheels in Greenville, SC
- Helped organized and work for annual golf tournament in Huntsville, AL – Pilots for Christ

The following questions may be answered directly on this form, or responses uploaded as attachments upon form submission.

1. **With the death of George Floyd the country was thrust into a new civil rights movement. Policing in America was scrutinized even more and even here locally reparations were passed. Please explain if you believe that systemic racism and oppression exist, if yes do you or do you not support reparations and what it all means in the context of equity and Inclusion.**

As James Madison rightfully labelled slavery as America's original sin we are still dealing with its consequences. I believe this to be true and acknowledged by most of society, but not necessarily felt by all of society. From that time in American history, African Americans and minority groups have been marginalized and oppressed intentionally and unintentionally from and by American people as a whole. Even those with the purest of heart and best intentions have at times fallen ill to a stereotype and treated or reacted differently than they should. To answer the question; yes, I believe systemic racism and oppression exist in our community and yes, I support a plan for reparations. Let's first establish what reparations are not. Reparations do not entail a stipend or a one-time cash payment. While the promise of forty acres and mule was a blatant lie, we cannot claim nor accept a check for any amount of money would suffice and make things right. We must have a plan that allows for an equal playing field for all. Unfortunately, we are starting a marathon in which some of our citizens are miles behind. Looking at the reparations passed in the city of Asheville, it was a great start. First to acknowledge and apologize for the racist and oppressions the city itself has been complicit in. Secondly, it very clearly established a time line for action. Words are meaningless without first, intent, and then follow through. It would be more than an honor to contribute to that follow through and continue the great work towards a more inclusive and equal society.

2. **Do you support Black Asheville Demands call for defunding the APD by 50%? If no, please explain why and if yes, what sort of timeline do you envision to reach that goal?**

I support defunding the APD. Is 50% the correct percentage? Of that I am uncertain. The recent vote to pause any increase in budget was the correct measure as step one. Step two should be a thorough review of the department and policing as a whole. We are asking the approximate 300 police officers to perform duties that are not policing nor enforcing law but rather dealing with mental health issues, homelessness, addiction, being marriage counselors and the list continues. I strongly believe the amount budgeted for the APD is incorrect and needs reallocation. Perhaps that reallocating to another existing department or possibly forming new departments to address the multitude of issues affecting our community that we have piled on our officers and not rightly equipped them to handle. Once that has been determined, my assumption would be we have too many officers and can create a savings by properly staffing the APD. The other issue that would need to be solved in this reallocation of funds is ensuring the proper persons are indeed in uniform. We need to invest in the training from a field level surely but also in the management ranks to ensure proper personnel are being hired to begin with. While a timeline may be difficult to pinpoint I do believe necessary as to show accountability to the public and have a measurement of success or areas of improvement. If at any time it is determined a timeline may not be met it should be made public. As only transparency will begin to restore trust and faith in this council, this city and the APD. Initially I would set a six month timetable to determine departmental size and allocation. With an additional six month time line to transition or form any new department.

3. **Explain why you want to serve on City Council.**

Growing up, the last thing my father said to my brother and I when dropping us off at school each day was asking a simple question, "Boys, are you going to be leaders or followers today?" It has been ingrained in me since I was a young child to lead and I have been blessed with certain characteristics and abilities to allow me to become an effective leader. My leadership style has always been one of a servant's attitude towards leadership. I do not believe in asking anyone to do something I myself wouldn't be willing to do. This further means, I would ensure I am always available to assist. I have a burning desire to serve this community. Ensure it progresses and is as beautiful to its citizens as it is to every eye that has ever been fortunate enough to witness its beauty. There are those who love this community and want to see it flourish, there are those who are chasing the American Dream, there are those who are successful in this endeavor and those who struggle. A lot of the time those who struggle are struggling simply because they are not heard or do not feel heard by their leaders. I want to serve to I can give a voice to those who feel that way, those who want what is best not only for themselves, their families, but also this amazing city. Selfishly, I want to serve to ensure a great place for my family and make a place that will allow my child to grow, learn and mature and be a product of. I am very proud of this city and wish to be a part of those who serve it.

4. **If selected, how do you plan to communicate and work with the other Council members? To help us understand, please give examples of your working collaboratively in the past.**

This is a very unique opportunity as this appointment comes from the council itself and not the voting public. As previously mentioned, I would attack this opportunity with a servant's attitude. I will always make myself available to the council. What I may lack in experience I would more than make up for with passion, intellect and hard work. As a junior councilor, I would want to lean on and learn from those who have already sat in these chairs. Very similarly to my naval career I would come in humble, open minded, excited to learn and determined to give the people of Asheville my best efforts. This was my application and mindset when enlisting in the Navy, which allowed me to advance in rank and responsibility in record times. This first in, last to leave attitude also won me the respect of all those who I surpassed in rank and at whom at one time their junior ended with them being direct reports to myself.

In today's current COVID environment proper communications and work relationships could not be more important. We are presented with challenges on this front that no other council before has ever had to deal with. We must speak regularly, ask questions, challenge the status quo and be united as a leadership group for the city. We may not always agree on each and every vote or issue but we must have respect for each other's opinion and point of view. Those or any disagreements should not come to light for the first time in the public eye. We should do all in our power to come to an agreeable resolution not only for our work relationships but for the service to the citizens of our city.

5. **What do you consider the most pressing problem, need, or cause for the citizens of Asheville today? How would you approach its resolution or champion the cause?**

The most pressing problem facing our city is racial inequality. We see this in the countless protests and communications from our citizens. This matter must be addressed and championed. Reparations are a start. This however is not an issue we can perform one action and celebrate as completed or achieved. This issue is ingrained in our society and in every avenue we touch. While there are surely actions we can take to have some short term effect, I would propose and work diligently for long term lasting reforms. Educational reform and betterment is a major way to impact this societal issue in our community. It must be made available and equal to all our children. A couple of additional obstacles that are apparent in the current climate with the NC phase two roll out and virtual learning are access to broadband and virtual learning supplies. Not only do we face these obstacles but childcare and attention/assistance that an in person teacher can provide may not be available if the adult aged persons in the household are needing to work to provide for their families basic needs. As referenced in the Citizen Times the academic disparities between white and black students loom large. In the 2018-19 academic school year, while elementary and middle school students in ACS scored around 60 points higher than their black classmates on reading and math state assessments. This divide is the largest in North Carolina. As we look to better our community we should start by equipping our future with the tools required to be successful. Show our diversity and invest in a long term solution. Creating a future we can all be proud of.