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The Honorable Paul Grenier
Mayor of the City of Berlin, NH
168 Main Street
Berlin, NH 03570

Dear Mayor Grenier and the City Council,

I would like to be considered for appointment to a position of alternate to the City of Berlin Planning Board.

This year I was fortunate to purchase an older house in Berlin and now reside here full time. It has always been a tradition in my family to contribute to the community and I feel this might be that kind of opportunity. I enjoy the area very much.

After many years as a contractor in Maine, I took a second career working for an Engineering firm in Massachusetts, AHA Consulting Engineers. My work in Energy and Sustainability department involves analyzing buildings for their efficiency opportunities as well as environmental impacts. I am able to work full time from my home on Prospect street, occasionally visiting projects in other areas.

I am currently a member of the Friends of Big Nansen, The Historical Society, and the growing Androscoggin food Co-op. as well as being involved with several of the area outdoor organizations. I am a member of the AMC, Randolph Mountain Club, Northern Forest Canoe Trail and the Granite Backcountry Alliance, among others. I feel like these organizations support one of the great aspects of Berlin, our proximity to the rugged natural environment.

Last month while volunteering at a ski event at the Mount Washington Auto Road I was reminded that my father climbed there ninety years ago, coming to New Hampshire by train. I have been familiar with the White Mountains since I was five.

My work has led me to become well versed in code applications and the kind of long-term commitments to capital improvements that reduce impact and make communities stronger. I am a long standing member of the High Performance Building Standard (189.1) that supports the International Green Construction Code, IGCC.

I consider the renewable energy efforts in Berlin to be exemplary. For a person with my background the combination of renewables being used in Berlin seems very forward thinking indeed.

In Maine, where I had a contracting business, I was involved with the national Association of Homebuilders and the Rockport, Maine building committee. My parents were very active in the community there. I have worked on remote islands and remote mountain locations a lot, especially with off grid projects.

This, and my lifelong connection to Northern New England was why I chose to make Berlin my home. I believe the city is a unique area with history, a serious hard-working tradition, excellent outdoor recreation opportunities and great people who are passionate about the community. It is my hope that I can bring support to the cultural and economic restoration of the area.

The pandemic required zoom meetings have allowed me to attend several of the city council and planning board meetings and introduce myself. It is a great group of people I look forward to knowing better.

I realize I will be considered a newcomer, and I accept that and will try to learn more about the community and listen more than speak out. That being said, I also note with interest that to bring prosperity back to Berlin a few new residents might not be so bad. I hope you will accept my application and give me the chance to participate and contribute where I can.

Thank you

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