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Board of Commissioners
City of Johnson City
601 E. Main Street
Johnson City, TN 37601

Dear Members of the Board of Commissioners:

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving on the Johnson City Commission and to respectfully request your consideration and support for my appointment to the vacant seat.

As a lifelong Tennessean, proudly born, raised and educated in Johnson City, I am deeply committed to serving this community. My career has been dedicated to public service at both the state and federal levels and I currently serve in higher education leadership. These experiences have uniquely prepared me to contribute meaningfully to the Commission's good work. Throughout my career, I have focused on building relationships, fostering collaboration and addressing complex policy issues. As reflected in my resume, my record of community service and volunteer leadership underscores my long-standing commitment to the people and future of our community and my belief that civic and community engagement is essential to strong and thriving communities.

If appointed, I would approach the Commission role with a spirit of service and a focus on advancing the priorities outlined by the Commission in the Johnson City 2025 Strategic Plan:

- Economic Vitality – Foster a city-wide environment where existing businesses can grow and thrive while recruiting new industries that generate jobs and opportunities. Pursue strategic investments from state and federal partners as well as the private sector to strengthen our local economy.
- Quality of Place – While our natural beauty is unmatched, it is our people who truly make Johnson City special. I support continued investments that enhance our family-friendly, vibrant culture, the very qualities that brought my family home and that draw others to build their lives here.
- Future Ready Infrastructure – Plan for smart, balanced and sustainable growth that anticipates infrastructure needs, protects our natural resources and upholds strong fiscal responsibility.
- Excellence in City Government – Champion a culture among city employees that prioritizes high-quality, constituent-focused service to ensure Johnson City remains the most attractive community in the region for residents, businesses, and investors. Prioritizing fiscal sustainability through budgeting and financial decisions.

While each of these priorities are important, a collaborative, solutions-oriented approach will best position us for a strong and resilient future. I am eager to learn, lead and contribute alongside the current members of the Johnson City Commission and City staff.

Johnson City is a place I am proud to call home. I am deeply aware of the privilege of having grown up in this community. The education I received at Science Hill High School, East Tennessee State University and Milligan University equipped me to succeed in highly competitive environments throughout my career. I have had the opportunity to learn from effective leaders as they navigated complex challenges and made decisions in the best interest of their constituents. When my husband and I decided where to raise our two young boys, there was never any doubt – we chose Johnson City. We did so because of the people, the relationships and our shared desire to model for our sons what it means to be engaged and contributing members of their community.

Now, I believe it is my time to step up and give back. I am not afraid of hard work, and it would be an honor to help you in advancing the vision laid out in the Johnson City 2025 Strategic Plan - a vision that strengthens our neighborhoods, grows our economy, and preserves the quality of life that makes our city extraordinary.

I recognize and deeply respect the commitment and sacrifice each of you has made in serving Johnson City. Your leadership has guided our community through growth, challenges and opportunities, and I am grateful for the steady and thoughtful stewardship you continue to provide. If chosen to serve alongside you, I would bring the same collaborative spirit, leadership, integrity and dedication along with positivity and a calm strength that has defined my career and community involvement.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy further and to share my ideas for sustaining Johnson City's remarkable momentum.

Respectfully,
Whitney C. Goetz