

Clinton County  
Leader  
Plattsburg, MO  
Circ. 2250  
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**Citizen tracks progress of Personnel Committee**

Steve,  
Last Tuesday I attended part of the Plattsburg City Council Personnel Committee meeting. These meetings aren't usually open to the public, but now more are because we are following the Missouri Sunshine law in regards to open meetings. I went because they were going to give an "update on the interview with City Administrator candidates". I've been tracking this progress through articles in your newspaper, The leader, and conversations with other citizens and when I heard about this meeting I was ready to attend.  
There were only four people at the meeting besides the three committee members, the Mayor, one additional Council member and the

acting city administrator who was there for a little while. I wondered why there were so few. Could it be that once again one of our public entities was having a meeting when the majority of residents were still at work or just getting off (5:00 pm) or could it be that only the minimum notice was given? (Minimum notice is this: At least 24 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) before a public meeting, the public body must prominently post a notice of the meeting in its principal office. If there is no such office, the public body should post the notice at the meeting place. The notice must include: time of meeting; date and place of meeting; tentative agenda of an open meeting; and whether the meeting

is open or closed.) I don't know why others didn't attend, but I do know that both of these factors (meeting time and short notice) will limit the number of participants.  
The update on candidates was informative. Marti Riddle presented information on the +20 resumes that were received and told that four candidates were exceptionally qualified. Each have been or are City Administrators; had worked their way up through the ranks; and each have a Master's Degree in Public Administration. The committee has completed telephone interviews and one candidate has been to Plattsburg for an on-site talk.  
I'm impressed that our small town has attracted such qualified individuals and am excited that

with this many qualified applicants that we will get a truly experienced professional to lead us in the coming years.  
I would like to urge all residents to contact the Personnel Committee members: Marti Riddle, Cam Collins and chairman, Mike Flores or the other Council members if they want a knowledgeable, qualified City Administration. Let them know that our city needs and deserves the best available.  
Also, ask them to conduct all open meetings in the evening when more people are available to attend. It might not get more people there, but it sure will help build an image of openness and sensitivity to the needs of their constituents.  
*LaDonna Duncan /*