




"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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**TO:** Common Council  
**FROM:** Mayor Jacob A. Woodford   
**DATE:** January 19, 2022  
**RE:** Health Officer Recommendation

A search for a new Health Officer for the City of Appleton was initiated in March 2021 in anticipation of a June 2021 retirement. Effective June 4, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Sonja Jensen BSN, RN was appointed Interim Health Officer – Ms. Jensen has since been promoted to Deputy Director, a role she will retain following appointment of a new Health Officer.

Due to similar open positions across Wisconsin and the United States, and the ongoing pandemic, the City of Appleton faced significant challenges in completing this search. However, after diligent recruitment efforts on the part of our Human Resources Department, I am pleased to bring forward an excellent candidate for your consideration.

The candidate brings over a decade of experience in community and public health, holding a Master of Public Health and an MA and PhD in Behavioral Psychology with an emphasis on Community Health and Development. Most recently, he has served as Chief Public Health Officer/Health Director for the East Central Health District Health Department in Columbus, Nebraska. The candidate currently serves as chair of the Board of Directors of Centro Hispano Comunitario de Nebraska; vice chair of the Community Advisory Board of the Community and Family Partnership of the Columbus Area United Way; and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors.

It is my honor to recommend Charles E. Sepers, Jr., PhD, to serve as the City of Appleton's next Health Officer. His resume is attached for your reference.

Please be in contact should you have any questions or concerns.