

CITY OFFICIALS

Gary W. Manier, *Mayor*

Valeri L. Brod, *City Clerk*

Ellen L. Dingleline, *City Treasurer*

Raymond P. Forsythe, *City Administrator*



ALDERMEN

Michael J. Brownfield, *Ward I*

Lilija V. Stevens, *Ward I*

Brett M. Adams, *Ward II*

Todd M. Yoder, *Ward II*

David Dingleline, *Ward III*

Brian H. Butler, *Ward III*

Daniel A. Cobb, *Ward IV*

John J. Blundy, *Ward IV*

Contact Information

Gary Manier

Mayor

City of Washington

301 Walnut Street

Washington, IL. 61571

gmanier@ci.washington.il.us

309-208-6214

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2021

Ray Forsythe, City Administrator retires from the City of Washington effective April 30, 2021:

Ray Forsythe, City Administrator retires from the City of Washington effective April 30, 2021. Forsythe had signed a 2-year contract with the City of Washington which started on April 15, 2019 and ended on April 30, 2021.

Forsythe released the following statement:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with the City and appreciate the support, guidance and mentoring received by the Mayor and the City Council. My decision to retire was made after a reflection on my personal life and has no bearing on anything related to the position with the City of Washington. I have had tremendous support from the elected officials, outstanding staff and the community. I hope I have made an impact on the organization."

"Highlights of the last 2 years for me have been the strong commitment and initial execution of the long term capital improvement plan, analyzing and reorganizing the Engineering and Public Works Departments to put together the structure needed to accomplish the City Council's goals towards maintenance and reconstruction of the aging infrastructure, while at the same time making strategic investments in new roadways and utility systems to continue the planned growth of Washington and our economy. In addition, reorganization of the Planning & Development, Administration and Utility Divisions of the City have proven to be

successful. With the appropriate staff members in place, the City will be able to continue the commitment of customer service, sound fiscal management and transparency in operations. The new Human Resource Manager is able to ensure the City is compliant with all local, state and federal regulations while strengthening the employment recruitment and retention process. The Communications Specialist is working on ensuring the City's website, social media and public communication is thorough and effective."

"The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a major impact on every person worldwide. I have made the decision to spend more time with family and retirement gives me this option. I have spent over 23 years working for municipalities in Illinois and planned for retirement through the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund."

"Prior to my time in Illinois, I worked over 10 years for various Iowa Planning & Economic Development governmental and non-profit entities. I feel that it is the appropriate time for me to do this and wish the Mayor, City Council, staff and residents of Washington well. I truly believe Washington's best years are ahead and I look forward to seeing the success!"

Mr. Forsythe notified the City Council of his departure on April 7th and a plan is being developed to replace the outgoing City Administrator.

Mayor Manier provided the following statement:

"We'd like to thank Ray for his time here in Washington. Ray was a great addition to our Team and he helped manage the city through the pandemic. Because of Ray's leadership during his time here, I believe we'll see continued development happening within our great city. We hope Ray enjoys his next chapter and we wish him well." –Mayor, Gary W. Manier

Mayor Manier will be working with the Department Directors and Management Staff in the interim while a replacement is being recruited.

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