



For Immediate Release
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City Manager Announces Retirement

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city of Harrisonburg’s city manager is making plans to retire later this year.

Last night after the regular City Council meeting, City Manager Kurt Hodgen announced his intentions to retire on October 31, 2017.

“This has been my dream job from the time I graduated from James Madison University,” explained Kurt Hodgen, city manager. “It has been a privilege and honor to work with city staff and council members. Any measure of success that I have had in my time with the city is due to their support and efforts.”

Hodgen graduated from James Madison University (JMU) with a bachelor of science in public administration and political science. He joined Harrisonburg in 2001 as assistant city manager, after serving as assistant county manager in Botetourt County and town manager in Narrows. He was appointed to the city manager position in 2007.

For many years, he has been a member of and participated in the Virginia Municipal League, Virginia Local Government Management Association, and the International City/County Management Association. In 2003, Hodgen was awarded outstanding assistant manager by the Virginia Local Government Management Association.

“We certainly wish Kurt the best of luck in his retirement but he will be greatly missed,” explained Mayor Deanna Reed. “He has brought a wealth of knowledge to our community and has been a leader in moving this city forward in a variety of ways.”

Hodgen has no immediate plans after retirement other than having the opportunity to spend more time with his family.

The position will eventually be open to a search for the next city manager but no immediate plans for this have been announced. Harrisonburg’s City Council will ultimately appoint the next city manager.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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