



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

PRESS RELEASE

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ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER ACCEPTED INTO ICMA'S EMERGING LEADERS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – October 11, 2019 – The City of Athens' newly appointed Assistant to the City Manager, James A. Gallup, has been accepted into the International City/County Management Association's Emerging Leaders Development Program (ELDP). The ELDP is designed to help early to mid-career professionals build knowledge, skills, and abilities in the basic management and technical topics that managers need to know to be successful. Through a unique format that blends monthly teleseminars with senior credentialed managers or public administration professors, ELDP minimizes your time away from work and maximizes your local government expertise.

"A hallmark of any profession is continuing education that allows professionals to stay on top of best practices and models of said profession," says Gallup. "I am a public servant, and such, I want to be the best servant I can be, and the ELDP will help me accomplish that goal." Gallup is no stranger to continuing education. Gallup served previously as a military officer and accomplished professional development education related to the profession of arms. "I've turned in my allegorical sword and spear for the plows and pruning hooks, and I am ready to do work for this City."

The capstone of the ELDP is a Management Application Project (MAP), a final assessment and opportunity for an ELDP candidate to demonstrate what's been learned through the program and would benefit the community or their organization. The project is flexible, and candidates will have the opportunity to work with a credentialed manager to coach them through the process. Athens' City Manager, C. Seth Sumner, is an ICMA credentialed manager and has mentored ELDP candidates across the nation for the MAP. Successful completion of the project may count as six-months of executive experience credit towards Gallup becoming himself, an ICMA credentialed manager.

For more information, please contact the Office of the City Manager at (423) 744-2700 Extension 9.

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