



## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

### PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### CITY OF ATHENS APPOINTS ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – September 30, 2019 – The City of Athens is officially announcing the appointment of James A. Gallup to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of the newly created Assistant to the City Manager position. Gallup was previously the city's Public Management Fellow from the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS), a subset of the University of Tennessee's Institute of Public Service.

The Public Management Fellowship program is a 2-year post-graduate fellowship offered by MTAS for aspiring public managers desiring a career in public service. Previous fellowships involved fellows bouncing between different cities working on a variety of projects. Gallup's fellowship experience was designed to be more intimate with just one local municipality, allowing for the development of knowledge and skills of public management focused mainly, in this instance, on the City of Athens under the guidance and mentorship of Athens City Manager C. Seth Sumner.

"Without a doubt, these last two years have been an eye-opening but rewarding experience and I am wholeheartedly grateful to the City Council and City Manager for the opportunity to continue serving in this capacity, and in this city," says Gallup, a graduate of the University of Tennessee's Master of Public Policy and Administration program. Before graduate school, Gallup served in the United States Air Force as an Air Battle Manager flying on the E-8C Joint Surveillance, Targeting, and Attack Radar System (JSTARS) based in Robins AFB, Georgia. He attained the rank of Captain before separating as an honorably discharged veteran.

As the Assistant to the City Manager, Gallup will continue providing policy research support to the City Manager's Office and city department heads while also coordinating the City's social media outreach efforts. On top of that, Gallup will remain the de facto purchasing agent coordinating formal bids and upholding the City's compliance to purchasing policies.

**About MTAS and the Institute of Public Service**

The MTAS mission is to work with Tennessee municipalities to improve the lives they serve, envisioning Tennessee municipalities as the national model of good governance. The Institute of Public Service serves businesses and governments to improve the lives of all Tennesseans seeing the State of Tennessee as a global leader with thriving business and industry, efficient and effective government, and vibrant communities.

The City of Athens is a full-service municipality nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and has garnered the reputation as “the Friendly City.”

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