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Indianola City Manager Heading for Bigger City, Greater Challenges

INDIANOLA, IA –After nearly six years as the City of Indianola’s chief administrative officer, city manager Ryan Waller will be leaving to become the next city manager for the City of Marion, a community of more than 40,000 residents located minutes north of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

A public servant with 20 years of local government experience, Waller has been an invaluable resource to the community. “The only downside of having a city manager of Ryan Waller’s caliber is that it’s impossible to keep his good work a secret,” said mayor Pam Pepper and members of the city council. “Ryan’s high level of integrity and expertise in city government make him very appealing to other cities. He has been an asset in improving Indianola and he will be greatly missed. However, we understand the strong appeal of closer proximity to family and professional opportunities that a larger organization provides. We thank him for his dedicated service to our City and wish him all the best.”

We know firsthand that Marion will flourish under Waller’s leadership in much the same way as our city has, Waller brought cohesion to our city staff resulting in:

- Implementation of policies and practices that continue to add to the more than \$186 million of economic development growth experienced over the last five years,
- The establishment of the City’s first ever comprehensive financial policy, as well as other financial practices that have resulted in a bond rating upgrade (Aa2) and achievement of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished budget award for five consecutive years,
- An increased investment in roads and other vital infrastructure, such as the Square Master Plan that will replace and upsize various infrastructure that are 70 to more than 100-years-old and includes other pedestrian improvements to provide a safer and more enjoyable experience for visitors to the community’s Square,
- Enactment of staffing and other organizational adjustments, most notably to the fire and police departments, to ensure the community’s current and future service delivery needs are met, and
- Approval from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to begin construction of a new state-of-the-art water resource recovery facility.

“Indianola is a wonderful community, and it has been an extreme honor to serve as its city manager,” said Waller of his departure. “Our residents are in great hands with a positive and community-focused mayor and city council, as well as an incredibly dedicated and caring staff, who will certainly keep Indianola moving forward.”

Information on the transition and recruitment process for Indianola’s next city manager will be released at a future date.

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About the City of Indianola

Indianola is a city in Warren County, Iowa, south of downtown Des Moines. The City of Indianola serves more than 15,000 residents and numerous visitors who come to explore Indianola's vibrant downtown, restaurants, shops, parks, cultural attractions—such as the Des Moines Metropolitan Opera—and events, including the National Balloon Classic and the Warren County Fair. To learn more about the City of Indianola, [click here](#).

