



TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Town Manager Stanley D. Hawthorne To Retire August 30, 2023

BLOOMFIELD, CT – Stanley D. Hawthorne, Town Manager of Bloomfield, has informed Mayor Danielle C. Wong that he will retire from his position effective, August 30, 2023. Mayor Wong made the announcement Monday evening at the Town of Bloomfield Town Council Meeting. The retirement date marks the conclusion of Hawthorne's second year with the Town.

"After careful thought and consideration, I have made the decision to retire," said Hawthorne. "Hopefully, this early notice will provide the Town Council a head start towards identifying a new Town Manager."

Hawthorne added, "I am fully confident in Assistant Town Manager Sharron Howe's preparation and ability to serve as Acting or Interim Town Manager if needed during the transitional period. However, she has informed me she will not be applying for the permanent role of Town Manager."

Hawthorne's tenure with the Town of Bloomfield began on August 31, 2021 following a national search to replace previous Town Manager Robert Smith. In a public presentation on October 11, 2022 that recapped the Town's performance year-end review, he heralded, "Town Council and the Community Building Leadership Team in tandem with our outreach to the community and community builders have put in process a comprehensive and aggressive agenda to build a better Bloomfield. While there remain challenges ahead, the opportunities are greater."

Hawthorne acknowledged what was and continues to be the biggest challenge of his tenure in Bloomfield and top ranking in his 30-year career: "The inability of a few governing body members to accept the transition of power following the November 2021 election, whether unintentional or intentional, has had a corrosive impact on the organization and chronically stressful effect on multiple administration members, as their professional reputation and commitment to serve unbiasedly has been challenged on a recurring basis whether by words or deeds."

"While I am disappointed in Mr. Hawthorne's decision to retire, I certainly understand it and I thank him for his service," Mayor Wong said. "In partnership with Town Council, we have made great strides in building Bloomfield under very challenging circumstances, including positioning future opportunities like new budgetary resources for community visioning and strategic planning; organizational realignment; a community investment plan of \$6 million that tripled the previous year's budget allocation; equity assessment of our town that includes comprehensive DEI study; workforce development; stronger outreach to residents; resources for project management and grants funding; establishment of an

economic development agency, whose first priority is to address the Wintonbury Mall property that has hindered re-envisioning of the Town's Center."

"I look forward to the Town Council commencing a national search to identify our next Town Manager and continue building the Town of Bloomfield to its fullest potential," Mayor Wong concluded.

About the Town of Bloomfield

Bloomfield is a picturesque Connecticut village, graced with rural beauty, abundant land, quality schools, dynamic commercial building projects, and a highly educated work force. Located just 10 miles west of the state capital of Hartford, the Town encompasses 26.4 square miles and has a population of 21,000 residents. Visit: www.bloomfieldct.gov