



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pleasant Hill City Manager Don Sandor Announces Retirement

Pleasant Hill, Iowa – The Pleasant Hill City Council voted tonight to accept the letter of retirement from City Manager Don Sandor. Sandor has been serving as City Manager since December 2007.

In his formal retirement announcement to the Mayor and City Council, Sandor stated, "I have seen many successful and unique endeavors during my time and Pleasant Hill is set for many positive developments in the coming years. I would like to thank current and past Mayors and City Council members for the privilege to serve as City Manager over the past nine and a half years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work, and am leaving Pleasant Hill in good hands with a great staff dedicated to working for the good of the community along with the continual progressive leadership from its elected officials."

During his tenure, Sandor provided leadership that facilitated the City's development to be what it is today. He oversaw investments in the community and managed extensive improvements to Doanes Park and Copper Creek Lake Park. Sandor also worked to help secure the purchase of 77-acres for a new park located southwest of Four Mile Elementary, which will feature amenities such as trails, splash pad, dog park, soccer fields, open green space, and shelters. The Community has also adopted a new Park and Recreation Plan and a new Comprehensive Plan with his guidance that will help guide policy priorities and capital improvements for many years.

His professional experience in city administration enabled him to manage in a way that allowed for change while helping move the City forward. The population of Pleasant Hill has grown over 20 percent during Sandor's time as City Manager. Taxable valuation of properties within the City has increased by 93 percent and redevelopment additions including Fareway, Subway and Deery Brothers have continued to add value to the community. "Everything that happens in the City is the result of a team effort by many people working together to improve the community," said Sandor.

In a recent survey, 80 percent of Pleasant Hill residents said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of life in the city. That figure is seven percent higher than the national average. As the city continues to develop, the investment decisions of the last few years will help maintain a high quality of life in Pleasant Hill.

Sandor is ending his career after 35 years in City administration to spend more time with his family, friends and do a bit of traveling. Prior to serving as Pleasant Hill's City Manager, Sandor served as City Manager for the City of Oskaloosa from 1993 to 2007. During his leadership for the City of Oskaloosa, the City undertook several major construction projects, while lowering the debt percentage and increasing their bond rating.

Prior to working for the City of Oskaloosa, Sandor served as Borough Manager for Sewickley, Pennsylvania; Vice President of Administration and Finance at the University of Charleston, West Virginia; City Administrator for the City of Waverly, Iowa; City Administrator for the City of Eldridge, Iowa and Village Administrator for the Village of Elburn, Illinois.

“Honor and trust, is what Don has brought to Pleasant Hill,” said Mayor Sara Kurovski. “His leadership is recognized by his peers across the metro and state. Don has always led with honesty and integrity, and has set the city up for future success. He undoubtedly put Pleasant Hill in a better position than what it was in when he arrived nine and a half years ago. The Council and I cannot thank Don enough for his service and dedication to Pleasant Hill. I have been absolutely honored to work with him as he has taught me more than he will ever realize during my time as Mayor.”

Don Sandor will retire from the City of Pleasant Hill on June 30, 2017. City Council is in the process of formulating a plan for the hiring of his replacement.

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