

Finalists Announced for Town Manager

The Chapel Hill Town Council has announced its three finalists for the position of Town Manager. The three are Frank Ragan, Deputy City Manager of Community Services in Aurora, Colo.; Roger Lane Stancil, former City Manager in Fayetteville, N.C.; and Sean R. Stegall, Assistant City Manager in Elgin, Ill.

"We are very fortunate to have such qualified candidates," said Mayor Kevin C. Foy. "Each of these people would do an excellent job in Chapel Hill, and I think the Council faces a tough choice."

The finalist candidates will be in Chapel Hill June 20-21 for interviews with the Town Council and Town Staff. The Council will hold a Public Forum at 7 p.m. June 21 in the Council Chamber of Town Hall. Candidates will make short presentations and take questions from the public and the Council. The Council will also receive feedback from the public about

the finalists. The forum will be cablecast live on Government Cable 18.

"We look forward to the public process," Foy said, "where citizens will have the opportunity to observe and interact with the candidates."

The Council announced plans in February to hire a new Town Manager after W. Calvin Horton, Manager for 16 years, announced his retirement, effective September 1. Horton is the longest-serving Manager in Town history.

The Council delegated responsibility for managing the search for a replacement to a committee composed of Mayor Kevin Foy, Mayor pro tem Bill Strom, and Council Members Bill Thorpe and Ed Harrison. The Council, at the committee's recommendation, hired two local human resources consultants, Anita Badrock and Tim Dempsey. The Council and the committee have been assisted by the Town's Human Resources staff, led by Director Pam Eastwood.

Advertisements for the position were placed in a variety of publications, including local publications, industry newsletters, and national newspapers, such as *The New York Times*. The consulting team interviewed Council Members and town department heads, then conducted a facilitated session with other town leaders. The result of this work was a candidate profile which incorporated the needs and wants of these stakeholders. The committee has used this profile to evaluate the candidates.

The Town received 120 applications for the position. On May 8, the committee reduced that initial pool to 15 candidates who best matched the profile. Those candidates were given a set of questions; their answers were used to further winnow the pool to eight on May 19.

The members of the committee interviewed the eight via telephone and met again on May 30 to select the group of finalists.

Want to learn more about them? Biographies of the finalist candidates, the candidate profile, a description of the position and other information about the search are available at www.townofchapelhill.org/managersearch. The public and employees also are welcome to attend a public forum featuring presentations from the candidates and a question-and-answer session at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at Town Hall.



Frank Ragan, Deputy City Manager of Community Services in Aurora, Colo.



Roger Lane Stancil, former City Manager in Fayetteville, N.C.



Sean R. Stegall, Assistant City Manager in Elgin, Ill.