

City of HARVARD

McHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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MAYOR
Michael P. Kelly

ADMINISTRATOR
David Nelson

CITY CLERK
Lori Moller

ALDERMAN:

1st WARD
Jay Schulz
Lisa Haderlein

2nd WARD
Daniel Carncross
John Lavallee

3rd WARD
Raul Meza
Charles Gorman

4th WARD
Rose Luna
Matthew Perkins

The City of Harvard is pleased to announce the City's search for a new City Administrator has been completed and will present the Mayor's appointment of Lou Leone to the Harvard City Council for formal confirmation at the next City Council meeting to be held Tuesday November 22nd, 2022 at 7PM.

Mr. Leone has served as the City Administrator for a few communities; Kiowa, Kansas; New London, Wisconsin; and most recently Nebraska City, Nebraska. Mr. Leone earned a Bachelor of Science Business Administration from Millikin University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver. He also has experience as a Paralegal prior to entering the field of Public Service earning a Paralegal Certificate from Loyola University Chicago.

The City embarked on a nationwide recruitment and selection process that began in July to find a successor to the City's only second City Administrator, Mr. Dave Nelson. Mr. Nelson announced earlier this year that he would retire January 6th 2023 after 35 years of exemplary service to the City of Harvard. The early announcement afforded the City Council the opportunity to conduct a thorough nationwide search to find a successor. Mr. Leone was selected from 19 candidates after an extensive multi-tiered interview process by City officials.

"We look forward to Lou Leone taking on this leadership position within the City's organization. We had many qualified candidates, and we spent many hours with each of the top candidates to find just the right fit. We are confident Lou will bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to help Harvard to continue to grow and achieve the City's Strategic Vision for 2040," said Mayor Michael Kelly.

"I am excited to join the team of professionals that work hard every day to provide City services to residents and businesses. I look forward to working with the Mayor and City Council to accomplish the goals and priorities laid out by the City Council, and strengthening partnerships with our residents, businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and other levels of government," said Lou Leone. "I want to be an active member of the community and look forward to getting started."

Mr. Leone is expected to start December 12th, and spend several weeks learning the ins and outs of the organization. "We wanted to enable as smooth of a transition as possible and allow Mr. Nelson the opportunity to spend time turning over projects and transactions which are currently in progress to provide a firm foundation for Mr. Leone as he steps into the role upon Mr. Nelson's retirement in early January," the Mayor explained. "Mr. Leone will need to hit the ground running as we are just now entering our budgeting phase for fiscal year 2023/2024. He will also need to hire 2 new department heads as additional City staffing has or will retire in the coming months. We are also in the middle of a major Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade, and have some new initiatives for Economic Development which will need to be addressed. Mr. Leone will certainly have his hands full in ensuring we maintain essential City Services while getting to learn our City, residents, and businesses," said the Mayor. "We look forward to Mr. Leone joining our team."

