

City of Platteville
75 N. Bonson St.
Platteville, WI 53818



Adam Ruechel
City Manager

MEMO:

TO: Council President Daus, Council Pro-Tem Nickels, Council Members, and City Staff

DATE: November 15, 2022

FROM: Adam Ruechel, City of Platteville City Manager

RE: Letter of Resignation as your City Manager

I am writing to formally apprise you all that I am resigning from my position as City Manager, effective Friday, January 13, 2023. I have recently accepted the position of Public Finance Specialist within the municipal government division of Robert W. Baird. I will begin employment with Baird on Monday, January 23, 2023.

The emotions I feel in tendering this resignation are beyond what I can put into words. This decision to resign as the City Manager for Platteville has been the most difficult determination I have ever had to make. The City of Platteville has allowed me the opportunity to live out a lifelong dream of being the chief administrative officer for the greatest municipality. This community took a chance on a relatively unknown individual to become their next City Manager and I will never forget the kindness and assistance I was given by the staff, common council, and community in tackling this role. I truly can say without hesitation being the City Manager for Platteville has been nothing short of amazing and a true check off my bucket list. I want to reiterate I was not looking for employment elsewhere but was sought out and after many discussions found it impossible to pass up the opportunity as it will provide additional career advancement for me personally and allow my family to move back closer to the areas we grew up in if we so choose.

WOW! What an incredible journey! When I started this role in 2020, I don't think anyone would have predicted the events and happenings of the last three years. The COVID-19 pandemic was a situation in which no one could prepare for, but I am forever thankful to lead this amazing municipality during that time and am forever grateful for all the hard work our staff, council members, volunteers, and community members accomplished in getting us to this day.

The progress and accomplishments in advancing Platteville as a destination for residential and business development in my tenure as city manager are undeniable. Within the next three years we will see the creation of at least twenty new single-family homes within the Estates at Keystone as well as other developers who are currently working on addressing housing needs in Platteville. Over the last three years we have seen numerous businesses either expand, such as L&M Manufacturing or create new ones such as Kwik Trip, Starbucks/US Cellular, Arby's, and many more. Make no mistake, progress has been tangible to the taxpayers we serve. The growth in staff professionalism and a healthy council/staff

dynamic has enabled us to continue the efforts of growing residential development, economic development, and create a culture where Platteville demands to be. There are no two ways about it: in its simplest form, the dedicated people working and volunteering for this city have made a drastic impact and will continue to do so after I leave.

I could go on indefinitely about the accolades and accomplishments of our “Platteville Team” during my time as City Manager. COVID-19 Response, 2021-2023 Strategic Planning, Comprehensive Fire Department Analysis, Taskforce for Inclusivity, Diversity, and Equity creation, Update of City of Platteville vision and mission statements, Platteville Pickaxe and Living Local and Loving It Video Series, Platteville Business Incubator upgrades, Implementation of new financial software, Finalization of City of Platteville Capital Improvement Planning process, Re-roof of Hanmer School Building, Broadband provider recruitments, camera system upgrades, council chamber system upgrades, City of Platteville Long Range Staffing Plan, Fire Station Appropriation Funding, Taste of Platteville event, Platteville Economic Development Partnership shared marketing efforts, Request for Proposals for multiple municipal service providers, Platteville Inclusive Playground, Broske Event Center, Pickleball Courts, population and tax base growth, Tax Increment Financing, fiscal discipline and transparency, budgetary process changes and reviews, key department changes with human resources and parks and recreation, various capital improvement projects, the list goes on.

The number one thing I wanted to ensure when I became the City Manager is whenever I decided to leave the position Platteville would be in a better place than when I started. I can truly say with the staff, elected officials, and dedicated residents during my time here we have continued to embark on the standard of Pioneering the Good Life and Making our Mark. Platteville is a place where everyone strives to do everything “top notch” and will continue to do so moving forward. It is Platteville’s identity and everyone has worked hard to secure it and will work hard to continue to propel Platteville forward.

It all starts with the people. I am so proud of our Platteville staff and volunteers, every single one. The staff and my experiences with the common council are what made this decision so difficult. Managing the desires for growth of this community from a service demand standpoint is a tall order, and this staff does so, ever so professionally and every single day, without fail.

The staff has been able to flourish and grow because Platteville has a common council of selflessly dedicated elected citizens that believe in the talents of staff to “get it done”. Well, we did get it done, but only with the Council’s trusting and engaged leadership at the helm.

I leave the City’s employ very proud, and frankly, very much in awe of what has been achieved. I consider you all dear friends more so than work colleagues and am assured the city remains steadfast in continuing the good work we have started... together.

To Continued Success for Platteville,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Ruechel', written in a cursive style.

Adam Ruechel
Platteville City Manager