



City of East Ridge

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Press Release

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City Manager J. Scott Miller Set to Retire After 45 Years of Public Service

EAST RIDGE, TN — The City of East Ridge announces that City Manager J. Scott Miller will retire in January 2026, concluding an accomplished career spanning more than four and a half decades in public service.

Miller has led the City of East Ridge since January 2023, having first returned to the position as Interim City Manager in November 2022 following the departure of the previous City Manager. This marks his second tenure as East Ridge’s City Manager, having previously served from 2016 until his first retirement in November 2018.

With more than 45 years of experience in city management, Miller’s decision not to renew his contract reflects his desire to officially close a long and distinguished career devoted to local government. He has also shared his intent to remain in place to support a smooth and seamless transition while his successor is selected and onboarded.

From City Manager Miller:

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my career in working in City Management; most particularly, the years I have served as the City Manager of the City of East Ridge. I have always found the profession to be both a challenging and rewarding one. Continuously working with the elected officials, employees, and the citizens to create and accomplish goals, initiatives, and projects for the betterment of the community.”

Miller’s career in municipal management began in 1974 and has included leadership positions in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Florida, Illinois, Georgia, and Kansas. He has served as City Manager in more than nine municipalities across the country, overseeing hundreds of employees and managing complex budgets, redevelopment initiatives, and major capital projects. A graduate of Ohio Northern University and the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned his Master of Public Administration, Miller is a life member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and is widely respected for his focus on teamwork, transparency, and long-term planning in local government.

Throughout his tenure in East Ridge, Miller has been recognized for his leadership style and ability to guide the city through both periods of transition and opportunity. His time in East Ridge has been marked by sustained capital investment, infrastructure improvements, and renewed attention to economic and community development.

Mayor Brian Williams shared his appreciation for Miller’s service:

“It has been a true pleasure working with Mr. Miller, first back in 2016 when I was elected as a Council Member, and then again in November of 2022, when he graciously stepped in as Interim City Manager before later transitioning to City Manager. Mr. Miller’s willingness to come out of retirement to assist our City speaks

volumes about his deep love for East Ridge and his unwavering commitment to public service. He has been instrumental in leading and guiding major projects for the City, and his steady leadership has made a lasting and positive impact on our community. I wish him all the very best in his well-earned retirement.”

The City Council and Human Resources Department, under the direction of the Mayor, will determine the process for recruiting the next City Manager. Details regarding the search and selection timeline will be announced at a later date.

Under Miller’s leadership, East Ridge continued to strengthen its identity as a thriving border-region city by expanding economic development initiatives, improving infrastructure, and enhancing community services. His leadership has guided numerous city departments through modernization efforts and new opportunities for growth while maintaining the city’s hometown values and transparency in government.

The City of East Ridge extends its sincere appreciation to City Manager Miller for his years of guidance, support, and unwavering commitment to the integrity and success of the community. The City wishes him the very best in his retirement and thanks him for his lasting contributions to the City of East Ridge.

Miller’s retirement marks the closure of a remarkable career and the beginning of a new chapter for both him and the City of East Ridge, a city he helped guide with professionalism, patience, and pride.

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Attached: J. Scott Miller, City Manager (Headshot)

