



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2022

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Hailey City Administrator Heather Dawson Announces Retirement Three-Month Notice Affords an Orderly Transition

The City of Hailey will bid farewell to Hailey City Administrator Heather Dawson on May 31, 2022. Mayor Burke and Dawson unveiled Dawson's retirement plans in a department-head staff meeting held today. "It's time to prioritize my family," Dawson said. "Circumstances in my personal life have led me to this difficult decision."

Dawson served for 14 years as Hailey City Administrator. She had been promoted to that position in 2008, from City Clerk/Treasurer, which position she held since March of 1990.

In her 32-year career with the City of Hailey, Dawson served under the leadership of eight mayors. "Each mayor brought differing perspectives and style to city government, and with each transition it was like getting a new job, each time with a bit more experience behind me," Dawson said. "This work's mission has been critically fundamental, the effort fruitful and deeply rewarding. I will truly miss it."

A three-month period is planned for an orderly transition within city government. "It will be a challenge to replace Heather, who has been a gift and a strength to the city" Mayor Burke said. "In the mandated operations of city government, with so many required nuts, bolts, and processes, she brings a deep knowledge of people, along with so much institutional knowledge. She is highly analytical and deeply intuitional both at the same time. We will miss her, but know as well as anyone that life becomes shorter each year. We wish Heather and her family our very best."

Dawson expressed confidence in the transition. "The team we have in place at the City of Hailey is highly capable, creative and vibrant," she said. "Each transition affords an organization the opportunity to improve itself. This will be one of those opportunities."

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