



## CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

The City of South Portland, Maine – recognized by Money magazine as one of the 100 Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2017 – is pleased to announce the recent hiring of three department heads:

- Stephanie Weaver, Director of Human Resources
- William Mann, Economic Development Director
- David Cunningham, Facilities Manager

Mr. Mann and Mr. Cunningham are filling positions that are new to the City, while Ms. Weaver fills a role that was vacated by Don Brewer in December when he left to serve as the HR Director for Cumberland County.

City Manager Scott Morelli noted that the City received dozens of applications for these leadership positions and these appointees were selected from smaller pools of highly qualified candidates. Mr. Morelli said that this response in a tightening job market is an affirmation of the City of South Portland's continued standing as an "Employer of Choice".

#### **Human Resources Director – Stephanie Weaver**

Ms. Weaver began her duties with the city on March 28. She was one of four candidates interviewed for the HR Director position. Ms. Weaver served in the same capacity for the Town of Wells for the past three years and prior to that as the Personnel Officer for the City of Saco for four years. She also has a municipal background in finance, having served in Saco's Finance Department for seven years.

"It's a great opportunity to join the excellent HR and management teams here in South Portland," said Weaver, a Portland resident. "I look forward to all we can accomplish for the City organization and the City's constituents."

Ms. Weaver holds a Master's in Public Policy and Management from the Muskie School at the University of Southern Maine. She currently serves as the Treasurer for the Maine Local Government Human Resources Association. Ms. Weaver's annual salary is \$85,615.

"Stephanie's experience in two southern Maine communities and thoughtful approach to her work made her our top choice," said Mr. Morelli. "We've had a strong human resources department in South Portland for quite a while and I'm looking forward to working with Stephanie to not only continue that tradition but also to build upon it. She has already made a positive impact."

As part of her new responsibilities, Ms. Weaver has been engaged in negotiations with all of the City's union bargaining units since her arrival. All six contracts are set to expire at the end of June. Her office is located at City Hall.

### **Economic Development Director – William Mann**

Mr. Mann, who began his duties on May 14, brings the City a broad range of experience in both the economic development and commercial banking arenas. Prior to his arrival in South Portland, Mr. Mann served as the Economic Development Director for the City of Saco for four years. In the mid-1990's, he served as both a Commercial Loan Officer for the City of Portland's Economic Development Department and as the President of the Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council. Mr. Mann has also served in a number of senior lending and leadership positions in the southern Maine Banking community.

"I am grateful and feel privileged to have this opportunity to join the City of South Portland in this role," said Mr. Mann, who lives in Portland with his family. "To do good and meaningful work as part of a strong team, working together with the citizens, development clients, and elected leadership of the City in an effort to make positive differences for our community . . . I am very fortunate and looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead."

Mr. Mann recently graduated from the Maine Development Foundation's Leadership Maine Program. He earned Master of Business Administration (Finance and Marketing) and Master of Science (Accounting) degrees from the University of Southern Maine. Mr. Mann is an Honors graduate of the New England School of Banking at Williams College and holds an undergraduate degree in Political Science from The George Washington University. His annual salary is \$80,517.

"Bill brings a strong track record of performance coupled with a depth and unique range of talents that made him the clear choice to join the City of South Portland as its first full-time Economic Development Director," said Mr. Morelli. "Our city has a blend of diverse business types and sizes and it is important that we have someone on staff who can work collaboratively with all of them. Bill is that person."

Mr. Mann is taking over the Economic Development duties from Assistant City Manager Joshua Reny who, up until Mann's hiring, also held the title of Economic Development Director. In 2017, the City Council opted to create a full-time position based on a recommendation from the City's Economic Development Committee and as set forth in 2016 South Portland Economic Development Plan.

The City of South Portland's Economic Development Department is co-located with the Planning and Code Departments at the old Hamlin School at 496 Ocean Street.

### **Facilities Manager – David Cunningham**

Mr. Cunningham is slated to begin his duties as Facilities Manager on June 11, having been the City's top choice out of three candidates interviewed for the position. Mr. Cunningham has served as the Facilities Supervisor for the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts since December 2005. Prior to that he served for brief stints as Arlington's Assistant Facilities Supervisor and as a Shift Supervisor in the Recreation Department.

"I'm looking forward to beginning my new duties and am hopeful that my previous work experience will enhance the City of South Portland's facilities," said Mr. Cunningham, who lives in Old Orchard Beach. "I've fallen in love with South Portland and will work my hardest for this great city."

“We were impressed with David’s municipal experience and technical knowledge of building maintenance and operations,” said Mr. Morelli. “This experience and knowledge will serve the City well as we begin systematically evaluating our numerous facilities to help ensure they meet the needs of our staff and the residents of South Portland. We’re looking forward to having David join our management team.”

Mr. Cunningham holds a B.S. degree in Business Communications from Southern New Hampshire University. His annual salary in South Portland will be \$71,656. Mr. Cunningham’s office will be located within the new Municipal Services Facility on Highland Avenue.

This is the first time South Portland will have a Facility Manager on staff. Previously, each department head was responsible for the building(s) that he/she worked in. But as part of the fiscal year 2018 budget, City Council approved the creation of this position with the goal of better maintaining the numerous facilities owned and operated by the City. Mr. Cunningham will assume supervision of the building custodial staff and current Building Maintenance Supervisor Ron Dion will be promoted to Deputy Facilities Manager. Once on board later this month, Mr. Cunningham will begin the long process of evaluating all City facilities to help City officials understand the current condition, short-term needs, and long-term needs of each. These needs will then be able to be incorporated into the City’s capital improvement plan so that repairs and renovations can occur in a more comprehensive manner.

For more information, please contact City Manager Scott Morelli at (207) 767-7606 or [smorelli@southportland.org](mailto:smorelli@southportland.org).