

## Clinton Announces Town Manager Finalists

CLINTON, CT (November 22, 2019) – Following a charter change to a Council-Manager form of government, the Town of Clinton has narrowed the search for its first Town Manager to three highly qualified candidates.

The Town selected Strategic Government Resources (SGR) to assist in conducting the extensive search that resulted in an impressive candidate pool. SGR is an executive recruitment firm based in Keller, Texas, specializing in recruiting, assessing, and developing innovative, collaborative, and authentic leaders for local governments. SGR's proprietary recruitment and vetting process produced an incredibly strong field of candidates. The Town received 45 applications from candidates in 20 states and two countries. Candidate vetting included a comprehensive questionnaire, online interviews, a psychometric assessment, a thorough media search, and a rigorous background investigation.

The three finalists will participate in a two-day interview process involving individual community tours, interview sessions with Town Leaders & Senior Staff, the Town Manager Search Committee, and the newly elected Town Council. The public is invited to a Town Manager "Meet & Greet" on Monday, December 2, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the Green Room at Town Hall. Town Employees are invited to meet the candidates on Tuesday, December 3, from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m., also in the Green Room of Town Hall.

### The finalists:



**James (Jim) Chandler** has more than 25 years of local government experience and most recently served as the Town Manager/Treasurer for the Town of Hampden, Maine. Jim previously served as Town Manager for the Town of Dexter, Maine, from 2017-2018, Deputy Town Manager for the Town of Amherst, Virginia, in 2017, and Assistant City Manager for the City of Caribou, Maine, from 2015-2017. Jim served Fairfax County, Virginia, as Program Manager for the Office of the County Executive from 2009-2015, and BRAC Project Coordinator for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation from 2007-2010.

Jim's other local government experience includes Emergency Management Specialist for Fairfax County Police Department; Park Ranger, Regional Planner, and Coordinator of Economic Development for Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority; and Communications Officer, Police Officer, and Student Resource Officer for the Falls Church, Virginia, Police Department.

Jim holds a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, and a bachelor's degree in government from The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.



**Karl Kilduff** has more than 20 years of local government experience and most recently served as the Executive Director for the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority. Karl previously served as the Town Administrator for the Town of Darien, Connecticut, from 2008-2015, Town Manager of North Branford, Connecticut, from 2001-2008, and City Manager of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, from 1998 – 2001.

Karl holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Connecticut, and a bachelor's degree in political science and international relations from Syracuse University.



**Kyle Coleman** currently serves as Assistant to the Village Manager for the Village of Estero, Florida and Founder and Chief Executive Officer of The SAT Academy of Southwest Florida. He previously served as the Executive Director of the Greater Syracuse Project, Syracuse, New York, from 2014-2016.

A graduate of Syracuse University, Kyle holds a master's degree in public administration, master's degree in business administration, Bachelor of Science degree in accounting, finance, information management and technology, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics.

Phil Sengle, Chairman TM Search Committee commented, "A wonderfully dedicated committee was appointed last February and worked seamlessly with Strategic Government Resources to a successful conclusion. Sengle added, "On behalf of the committee, we viewed this as our duty and responsibility with the realization that nothing more important has been accomplished in Clinton for a long, long time."

According to Christine Goupil, First Selectman of Clinton, "As the outgoing and last First Selectman of Clinton, I am keenly aware of the historical significance of this change in our form of government to a modern Council/Manager structure." Goupil continued, "I am very pleased how professional this process came together from our search committee, to SGR, and then to our new Council. I wish our soon-to-be selected Town Manger all the best and look forward to working with the person chosen to lead our community."

Clinton Town Council Chairman Chris Aniskovich stated, "Now that our inaugural Council is seated, I look forward to taking the next important step of hiring our first Town Manager." Aniskovich said, "Our Town Search Committee, along with the search firm SGR, has done a terrific job and the Town Council is looking forward to doing our part of the hiring process. We have three qualified candidates to choose from and I know we as a Council will do our best to find the right fit for our first Town Manager."

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