



# PRESS RELEASE

## New City Manger of Poplar Bluff will be Heath Kaplan

### What the City Council has to say about Kaplan:

- Mayor Angela Pearson, City Council Ward 1: *"Mark my words, Heath Kaplan will be one of the best City Manager's that Poplar Bluff has ever seen. He is highly intelligent, innovative, and experienced. His knowledge and capability will allow him to run our city more efficiently and will set Poplar Bluff apart! I would sincerely like to thank the selection committee for finding such an amazing candidate for Poplar Bluff."*
- Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Rushin, City Council At-Large: *"I was impressed with his thoroughness and vast and detailed knowledge of the intricate workings of the various City departments."*
- Councilman Ed Degaris, Ward 2: *"I just think that he will work out and do good and his enthusiasm will be contagious which will allow more to get done."*
- Councilwoman Betty Absheer, Ward 3: *"Even though I wasn't able to meet him when he was here, from the interviews and his resume and what I have learned about his qualifications and enthusiasm, I believe we will be able to work together, be unified and do a good job for the city."*
- Councilman Johnny Brannum, Ward 4: *"I would like to thank the search committee for their time and due diligence in the selection process. I look forward to working with Mr. Kaplan over the next several months to reduce the City of Poplar Bluff's huge health insurance deficit and improving the city's infrastructure while seeking out new manufacturing jobs and supporting retail development."*

• Councilman Peter Tinsley, Ward 5: *"Mr. Kaplan is very detailed and well versed in all aspects of city management. He will be able to turn around the city and speak the language of each department. I believe that he will raise Poplar Bluff to the height that we are capable of becoming. I'm excited! It's a new day in Poplar Bluff!"*

• Councilman David Johnson, At-Large: *"We had a lot of good candidates and he was the top one. He was very impressive to me because of what he knew about the city and how the city functioned. Just one example is when we toured the generating plant and Mr. Kaplan knew what kind of generators we had just by hearing them run. He's impressive to me."*

### The City Council voted 7-0 for Heath Kaplan

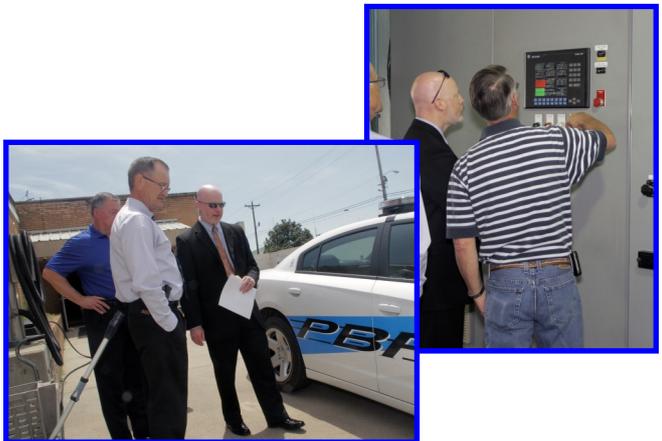
Heath Kaplan will come to the city of Poplar Bluff from Muskegon, MI to serve as City Manager in mid August. Kaplan was the top pick from both the Selection



Committee and the City Council. Kaplan brings a wealth of experience in government management. He holds a Master's of Public Administration with a Public Management emphasis and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration with an emphasis in Economics/Accounting and Public Health from Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI. Kaplan has a proven track record in City Management and Financial Management. He will be moving to Poplar Bluff with his wife, Shannon, daughter Sydney, and son Scott to Poplar Bluff before the school year starts.

*"I am thankful for the opportunity to become a part of the Poplar Bluff Team. I intend to implement public management that is in line with best practices in the profession. I look forward to learning about the community's priorities and providing a responsive, efficient and friendly government."*

**-Heath Kaplan**



*"He was very personable and knowledgeable. He was asking questions on the tour of the city departments that indicated to me that he had done preliminary research. I was pleasantly impressed."*

**-Danny Whiteley, Police Chief**