



ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS CITY MANAGER

Rock Island, IL (37,108). The City of Rock Island is seeking an innovative, energetic, and transformational leader to become its next City Manager. The current manager is retiring after serving 5 years in the position and 21 years with the organization.

Rock Island is one of four pillar communities that comprise the Quad Cities metropolitan region along with Moline on the Illinois side, and Davenport and Bettendorf on the Iowa side. The bi-state region boasts a population of over 400,000. Rock Island is located in northwestern Illinois along the banks of the mighty Mississippi River and the mouth of the Rock River. Rock Island is also the county seat of Rock Island County.

Rock Island's rich and captivating history remains an integral part of the community today evidenced by its many historic residential neighborhoods and commercial districts, as well as numerous historic sites and landmarks. The City was incorporated as a municipality in 1841, but its glorious heritage dates back to the early 1800's when the first settlers began to arrive and when the area was populated by the Sauk and Fox Indians. Today, while Rock Island has become a successful modern City that is forward-focused and progressive, its residents and leaders will always embrace and honor its rich heritage and celebrate how its history has molded the community of Rock Island into what it has become in the 21st century.

Rock Island's local economy is accurately characterized as diverse and stable. It is underpinned by several major regional employers including Deere & Company (6,200), the Rock Island Arsenal (6,100), Genesis Health Systems (5,200), and HyVee Food Stores (4,600). Rock Island is also home to Augustana College, a private Division 3 liberal arts college founded in 1860. With a 115-acre campus and a full-time student enrollment of 2,600, Augustana not only contributes to the educational and cultural fabric of Rock Island, but it is also a vital economic driver for the community.

Rock Island is also home to UnityPoint Health-Trinity Hospitals with 555 inpatient beds and 4,000 employees throughout the region. The spectacular Bally's Quad Cities Casino and Hotel is located at the intersection of I-280 and Highway 92 in Rock Island. This complex features a 205-room luxury hotel, meeting rooms for five hundred people, and a world class gaming facility that attracts visitors from throughout the Midwest. The casino also generates substantial tax revenue for the municipality.

Few cities of Rock Island's size can match the outstanding recreational and leisure opportunities that the community offers its residents. The Mississippi and Rock Rivers provide an endless number of recreational activities including walking, biking, and jogging along the waterfront as well as fishing, boating, skiing, and camping. There are several marinas and boat ramps that enable quick and safe access to both rivers throughout the County. Further, the City's Parks and Recreation Department maintains twenty-seven park sites consisting of over 850 acres of green space. Among the department's recreational offerings are the Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center, the Whitewater Junction Family Aquatic Center, the Rock Island Alan Campbell Sports Complex, along with two public golf courses. And speaking of golf, the spectacular TPC Deere Run golf course, which is home to the annual John Deere Classic PGA golf tournament, is just minutes away from Rock Island.

The City of Rock Island, which operates under the Council-Manager form of government, is a full-service municipality with an annual operating and capital budget of \$98 million and 431 full-time and 105 part-time

employees. The City provides a wide range of traditional municipal services such as police, fire & EMS, public works, parks and recreation, library, housing, community and economic development, and public utilities including water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer systems.

The governing body consists of the Mayor, who is elected at-large, and seven City Council members who are elected by wards to four-year overlapping terms. The Mayor and Council appoint the City Manager who is responsible for overseeing all day-to-day activities of the local government and the supervision of all operating departments.

The Mayor and Council are seeking candidates for the City Manager position that possess the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor's Degree in public administration, urban planning, business administration, public policy, or some other related field of study.
- A Master's Degree in public administration or some other related field is preferred but not required.
- At least 10 years of relevant and progressively responsible managerial experience, preferably in a local government as a City Manager / Administrator or an Assistant City Manager / Administrator.
- A thorough understanding of all facets of municipal operations.

The ideal candidate will have demonstrated experience in municipal financial management & budgeting, economic development, and strategic planning. He or she must also be an excellent communicator and a trustworthy and diplomatic professional who can establish and maintain harmonious relationships with all community stakeholders including the elected officials, the business community, neighborhood organizations, intergovernmental partners, and others.

In addition, the Council seeks candidates who are strong leaders that inspire and motivate team members to excel in their work and to produce outstanding outcomes for the community. They also want a City Manager who accepts responsibility for the organization and who will hold its employees accountable for their performance. The Council wants a City Manager who will face challenges and opportunities with innovation and creativity, and who will develop visionary and transformative approaches to the activities of local government in Rock Island. Finally, the new City Manager will need to embrace the diversity of culture in the community and work to unite people with differences during a time when divisiveness and acrimony seem to be growing in cities across the country.

The starting annual salary for the position is \$165,000 to \$180,000 DOQ/E. In addition, the City provides an outstanding and comprehensive array of fringe benefits. The City requires permanent residency within the corporate limits of Rock Island within six (6) months of appointment. Relocation assistance will be provided.

Interested candidates should apply online at www.govHRjobs.com by submitting their resume, cover letter, and contact information for five (5) professional references by January 18, 2022, to the attention of Mark Peterson, Vice President, and James Arndt, Vice President, GovHR USA, 630 Dundee Road, #225, Northbrook, IL 60062. If you have any questions about the position, the community, and/or the process, please direct those inquiries to Mr. Peterson at 309- 825-5091. The City of Rock Island is an Equal Opportunity Employer.