



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mayor Kwasi Fraser
kfraser@purcellvilleva.gov/ 540 338-7421

**ROB LOHR'S RETIREMENT – CELEBRATING A QUARTER CENTURY OF
COMMUNITY SERVICE EXCELLENCE**

PURCELLVILLE, Va. April 26, 2017 - Yesterday, April 25, 2017, Town Manager Rob Lohr, after twenty-four years of tireless service to Purcellville, has announced his retirement effective July 1, 2017. I appreciate and respect Mr. Lohr's leadership and commitment to our community since March 1993. His laser focus on ensuring continuous excellence in service delivery to our citizens and businesses has made us one of the best communities in the nation.

His tenure at the helm coincided with a period of significant change and growth for the town. Under Mr. Lohr's management, our Town received multiple awards and recognition for operational excellence. His many years of steady, conservative fiscal management helped us to achieve high bond ratings. In fact, Purcellville is one of the smallest municipalities in Virginia with a "AAA" rating.

I am confident that the mechanisms and processes Mr. Lohr has put in place will ensure a nearly seamless transition during this time of change. Over the next two months, Mr. Lohr will be partnering with the Town Council to execute a smooth transition and operational change management strategy for business continuity and services for our residents and businesses. Further, the Council will appoint an interim town manager, and the Town will embark on a search for Mr. Lohr's replacement.

I thank Mr. Lohr for his exceptional contribution towards making Purcellville a great community and for establishing the foundation to make us attain even greater heights. I wish him and his family all the best on their next journey.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

Purcellville is an award-winning town of nearly 9,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. It has been honored for its green initiatives, most recently with the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities. The Town has an elected Mayor and six Town Council members. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

###

Town Manager
Robert W. Lohr, Jr.

Assistant Town Manager
Daniel C. Davis

221 S. Nursery Avenue
Purcellville, VA 20132
(540) 338-7421
www.purcellvilleva.gov



Town Attorney
Sally G. Hankins

Chief of Police
Cynthia A. McAlister

Department Directors
Elizabeth Krens, Finance
Alex Vanegas, Public Works
Patrick Sullivan, Community Development
Shannon Bohince, Information Technology
Hooper McCann, Administration

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Mayor and Town Council

Mayor Fraser, Vice Mayor Jimmerson
Council Member McCollum, Council Member Grim
Council Member Bledsoe, Council Member Cool
Council Member Ogelman:

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the wonderful Town of Purcellville since 1993 but I now need to explore the next chapter in my life so I am announcing my retirement effective July 1, 2017, contingent upon the completion of our Retirement Agreement later tonight. Many of you know that brevity is not one of my strong points but I will do my best to try to relay my thanks to the community that has allowed me to serve for 25 years as your Town Manager. I can assure you that this has been one of my family's toughest decisions in our lives but I am blessed with a loving wife and children that have encouraged me to take this leap of faith into the next chapter of my life much like I did when I came here almost 25 years ago.

When I took this job in 1993, I had only been to Purcellville once and that was for the job interview. After several years on the job, it became very apparent that Purcellville was not just any community and my career ambitions of returning to my home community and being county administrator someday quickly vanished. Being Town Manager in Purcellville quickly became much more than a job and I realized that I fell in love with the Town, the staff, residents and businesses. Not always a recommendable outcome for a local government manager but nonetheless, my respect and appreciation for this community grew every year.

It seems like only the other day that Michelle and I were graduating from James Madison University looking for our first job in local government. Fast forward and almost 31 years later, we have both been blessed to have very fulfilling lives in local government. I have had the wonderful opportunity to spend my entire career in two beautiful communities which included New Market and Purcellville.

While there is never a perfect time to look at retirement, early summer seems to work the best in local governments based on our fiscal year, budget delivery and other critical projects. Over the next two months, I will be working closely with Town Council and staff to record and document

over 25 years of institutional knowledge and closing out several major projects that I have been handling. I also look forward to working with the interim manager to help with a smooth transition.

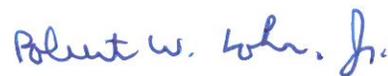
I began my career over 34 years ago when I spent two summers working in Fairfax County as an intern for the Fire and Rescue Department under the County Executive's Internship Program. Many in my family would argue that it started much earlier when I became a volunteer firefighter at the age of 16 in Chesterfield County. Public service has and will always be a major part of my life. In this career, I have been fortunate and honored to have served 16 distinct Town Councils which included 7 mayors and 49 town council members. I look out into the crowd tonight and see many that I have been blessed to serve with during my tenure.

One of the proudest highlights of my career is the wonderful and committed Town staff both past and current, who I have had the pleasure to work with over the years. I have been so proud to be part of this team and I clearly attribute any of my successes and long tenure to surrounding myself with these exceptional and talented team of employees. Coupled with the leadership and vision of Town Council, our staff worked hard to make Purcellville a model for customer support and exceptional service delivery that we provide to our citizens and businesses on a daily basis.

The Town of Purcellville has been a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. I was able to accomplish all three in the same beautiful town. Both of my beautiful and talented sons were born here, attended all three levels of school and were able to pursue their passion of sports and the outdoors while never having to go more than three miles in any direction. Coupled with the safe and nurturing environment, Purcellville is a role model of a small town that most communities dream of emulating. The Town of Purcellville will continue to my family's home and it would be impossible to think of anywhere else that we would want to live for the next ten years.

I wish the current Town Council and staff much success going forward and I will always be available to answer any questions or help in any way possible. I want to personally thank the current Town Council for giving me this opportunity. In closing, I want to personally thank the many citizens and businesses that I have had the opportunity to interact with over the years and hope that the Town was able to meet your expectations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert W. Lohr, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Robert W. Lohr, Jr.