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*“Embracing our Heritage, Advancing our Future”*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**City of Douglas names Dawn Prince as Interim City Manager**

**DOUGLAS, AZ** – On July 15, 2020, Mayor and Council met and unanimously approved the Interim City Manager appointment of Dawn Prince. “We wish the best to Mrs. Watson in her retirement and want to express our sincere gratitude to her and her husband Norm for serving our community these past 18 months”, stated Mayor Donald Huish. “We are excited to have Ms. Prince continue the advances we have made both internally and externally. We have every confidence she will be an asset to our community, and that she has the ability and desire to move us forward”.

Prince has worked in the public sector for over 20 years starting her career in New York State Government Systems. In Arizona, she served Maricopa County and the City of Peoria in various capacities. This leadership appointment became effective July 18, 2020.

On her appointment, Prince said, “I am so excited to be stepping in as the Interim City Manager for the City of Douglas. During Jerene’s time here she had made significant strides in some very key areas for our city. I look forward to continuing the work on those projects and seeing the fruits of our labor come to reality.”

Prince replaces Jerene Watson, an experienced City Manager with a successful 38-year career, who was first hired on January 2019 in a temporary capacity. Subsequently, Watson agreed to a one year contract which expired in July 2020.

Watson said, “Coming here 18 months ago, knowing there were some big challenges to help with, I really didn’t know what to expect. But the community won my heart right from the beginning with their kindness and warmth. The success of this City turning around financially and growing its economic opportunities and plans for the future was because of the vision, hard work and support of our City Leadership, both the City Council and staff members of the Leadership Team.” Watson continued, “Together we began some major projects this year and with Dawn Prince being appointed to take the helm as I leave, I know Douglas will not skip a beat. She has many years of seasoned municipal experience in various leadership roles across Arizona and has been with the City 10 months now. She will bring strength, vision and serve the citizens well. It has been my privilege to live and work in Douglas where I fully understand the tagline, ‘Come for a day, stay for a lifetime.’ I thank all who were willing to help shape a new path for this community and am blessed for living and working among you.”

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