



HAINES CITY

THE HEART OF FLORIDA

City Administration
620 E. Main Street
Haines City, FL 33844
Phone (863) 421-3600
Fax (863) 421-5561
www.hainescity.com

To the Citizens, City Commission, City Manager, and Staff of the City of Haines City:

“There’s no place like home” is definitely the feeling I have been having my first week here. Having spent the majority of my life in Polk County before moving to Panama City almost fourteen years ago, it is great to be back in Polk County and specifically here in Haines City.

I was born in Cincinnati and grew up in Winter Haven. After graduating from Winter Haven High School, I attended the University of Florida, graduating with a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science. I started my career with the Polk County Planning Department and spent four years working on the Polk County Comprehensive Plan, zoning cases, Community Development Block Grant program, and the County’s Affordable Housing Programs.

My long term goal was to work in local government administration and was appointed Assistant to the City Manager for Auburndale. During my tenure in Auburndale, the city constructed a new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), a new softball complex, and a library. While working during the day, I attended the University of South Florida and graduated with a Master’s degree in Public Administration.

From Auburndale, I was selected as the City Manager of Frostproof. Upon my arrival, the process to develop a multi-sport complex had begun. The complex was a joint project between the School Board, the County and the City. Approximately two years later, a baseball/softball complex, tennis courts, and soccer field was opened for School Board and City use. The City upgraded its WWTP and installed new wastewater lines. A determined group of Frostproof High School alumni secured funding for renovations of the historic high school which the City uses as City Hall.

I became Assistant City Manager of Panama City in 2004. It was a chance to work in a larger city, with a larger staff, on a bay near the Gulf of Mexico, with two military bases in close proximity. It was a chance to grow professionally that I could not pass up. While there, we saw the beginning redevelopment of the airport to a multi-use development, an upgrade of the traffic control system, upgrading the city’s computer system, working with developers to develop a junkyard into a 35 acre commercial development including a Cracker Barrel. The Bay County voters approved a half cent infrastructure surtax which allowed the City, Bay county, FDOT, and Port Panama City to improve a bridge, utility lines and road that is allowing the Port to building two large buildings and expanding the existing bulkhead to create 250+ jobs. The City also partnered with Eastern Shipbuilding to allow expansion of their facilities to construct the next generation of cutters for the Coast Guard. The initial contract was for several billions of dollars and 4,000 direct and indirect jobs for the local economy.

I am so happy and excited to be in Haines City! Many communities would be envious of the opportunities the City of Haines City possesses. I look forward to working with the Citizens, City Commission, City Manager, and staff of Haines City to take advantage of these opportunities. I look forward to meeting and working with each of you to move Haines City Forward.

Jeffrey Brown
Deputy City Manager

OUR MISSION

“Our team of professionals will provide our residents and business community with the highest quality services in a fiscally responsible manner through cooperation, strong ethical leadership with a lifelong commitment to enriching lives.”