

Petersburg taps Hicks for post

He begins work today
as city's director
of public works

BY JEREMY SLAYTON
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Hicks

Petersburg City Manager William E. Johnson III continues to build his leadership team.

Steven W. Hicks was announced last week as the city's director of public works and will begin his new position today.

He previously served on James City County Administrator Robert C. Middaugh's executive team as the manager of

development management, responsible for such government functions as building safety and permits, planning and zoning.

Hicks resigned from the position, which he held since 2008, in November.

"Mr. Hicks has the experience and accomplishments needed to reorganize, strengthen and improve customer service in Petersburg's Department of Public Works," Johnson said in a statement.

Johnson worked with a panel

of local and regional government department heads during the selection process.

Hicks' appointment is the third top leadership position filled since Johnson was named city manager in June.

Last month, Sharon D. Williams was named planning director and, in November, Irvin M. Carter Jr. was named director of finance.

In a statement released by Petersburg, Hicks expressed excitement to return to the city. Previously, he was the Virginia Department of Transportation's assistant resident engineer in Petersburg.

"I recognized that public works plays a critical role in the quality of life in the city," he said. "I am eager to work with the community to address current and future needs for Petersburg and her citizens."

In August 2010, Hicks was appointed by the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors as the new deputy for community development.

Later, however, he backed out to stay on in James City County.

jslayton@timesdispatch.com
(804) 649-6861