Westtown Township Appoints Jon Altshul as Township Manager

The Westtown Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce that Jon Altshul has been selected and will be appointed as the next Township Manager.

“After an extensive thorough executive search process where interest in the position was high and the field of candidates was competitive, the Board of Supervisors is pleased to have hired Jon to lead the organization while continuing to enjoy the trajectory of sound fiscal management and to secure the health, safety, and welfare of the Township’s citizens. We are fortunate to have found someone of Jon’s caliber, where he brings a resident-focused, can-do attitude to municipal management,” said Richard Pomerantz, Chair of the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors.

Jon will begin his employment on Monday, November 9, 2020 and will be formally introduced at the November 16, 2020 Board of Supervisors’ meeting.

Vice Chair Carol DeWolf said, “Jon’s extensive public administration experience, coupled with his proven track record as an effective, highly ethical leader made him by far the most qualified candidate to execute the Board’s policies in an even-handed, non-partisan manner and provide daily oversight of the Township’s operations.”

During Jon’s employment as East Goshen Township’s Assistant Township Manager and Director of Finance, East Goshen became the seventh municipality in Pennsylvania to earn a Aaa credit rating from Moody’s Investor Services. Jon also coordinated Township communications during his tenure, deploying social media platforms and revamping the Township newsletter to ensure that residents remained aware of the key issues facing the community.

“As Police Commissioner, I have had the pleasure of getting to know Jon through his thoughtful, level-headed analysis of the financial issues facing the Westtown East Goshen Regional Police Department. He brings the exact skill set and demeanor that we were looking for to lead Westtown in the years ahead,” Supervisor Scott Yaw stated.

It is a homecoming of sorts for Jon, who is a native of New Haven, Connecticut. Jon first came to Westtown in the summer of 1986 for a sleepaway sports camp at the Westtown School. He remembers that experience as one of his fondest childhood memories. When he relocated to West Chester from the Washington D.C. area in 2010, he realized that he had moved only miles from where he had gone to camp 24 years earlier.

Prior to joining East Goshen Township, Jon worked as a public policy analyst for the United States Government Accountability Office, the investigative arm of Congress, and as a financial analyst and manager for Arlington County, Virginia. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor in West Chester University’s Masters of Public Administration program, where he has taught several semesters of Budgeting and Finance. Nittany Lion fans should be forewarned that he holds a Master of Public Affairs from Indiana University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan, and that, depending on the sport, he’s not afraid to wear either maize and blue or cream and crimson on game day.

A resident of West Chester Borough, Jon has three children, ages 14, 13, and 8, two of whom attend schools in the West Chester Area School District. “Westtown Township is a special place, and I am honored that the Board of Supervisors have placed their trust and confidence in me as their next Township Manager. Thomas Jefferson famously said that the government closest to the people serves the people best. Local government is still a place where people can come together and work out their issues in a civil, thoughtful manner,” Jon stated. “I view the Township Manager as a facilitator, as a listener and as a communicator,” Jon explained. He further expounded, “It is important for municipal managers to always remember that the largest investment that most of us will ever make is in our homes. In that sense, our residents are literally invested in Westtown Township and need to be treated accordingly. Therefore, promoting an open dialogue between residents and the Township will help ensure the best possible outcome.”

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Board Chair Richard Pomerantz said, “Jon is an effective and pragmatic leader, who embraces open government and transparency. His wealth of knowledge, skills, abilities, experiences, and professionalism will serve the Township well. My colleagues and I look forward to working with Jon into an exciting and rewarding future.”

Questions regarding this announcement can be directed to supervisors@westtown.org