



Staunton Local Government: How We Work

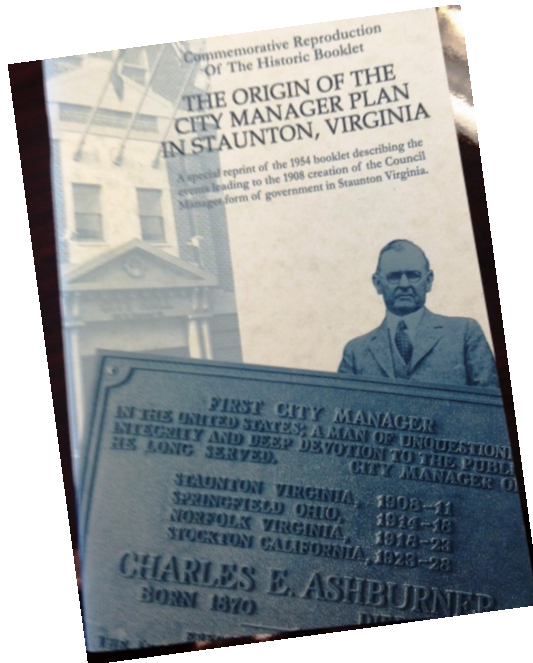
Staunton Citizen University

*Presented by Steve Rosenberg, City Manager
September 3, 2019*

- ◆ Population: 24,500
- ◆ Settled in 1732
- ◆ Established as a colonial town in 1761
- ◆ Incorporated as a town in 1801
- ◆ Incorporated as a city 70 years later
- ◆ Named for Lady Rebecca Staunton, wife of colonial governor Sir William Gooch
- ◆ “Queen City of the Valley”

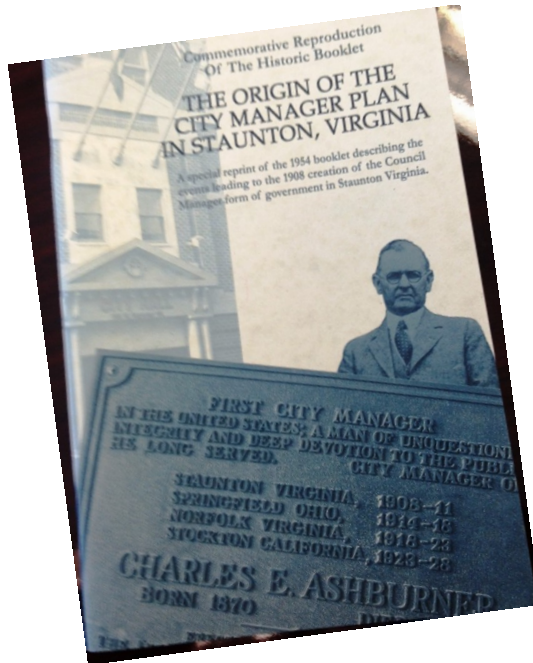


Birthplace of the City Manager



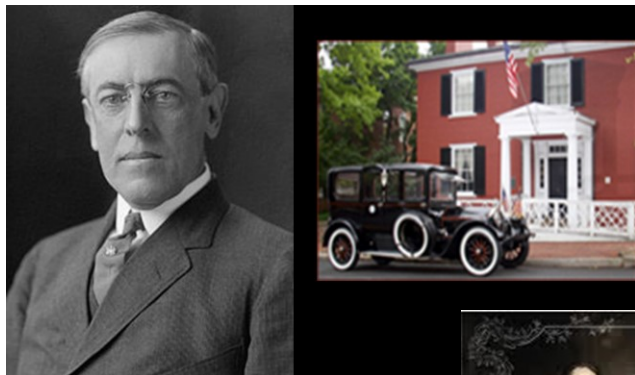
- ◆ Birthplace of Council-Manager form of government in 1908
- ◆ Charles Ashburner, first city manager in the United States and first of 17 in Staunton
- ◆ Reform Movement

History of City Management



- ◆ Council-Manager form is predominant form of local government in Virginia and the United States
- ◆ Council-Manager form in all Virginia cities, except Richmond
- ◆ 58% of cities with over 100K population
- ◆ 67% of city managers have a master's degree

Also the Birthplace of ...



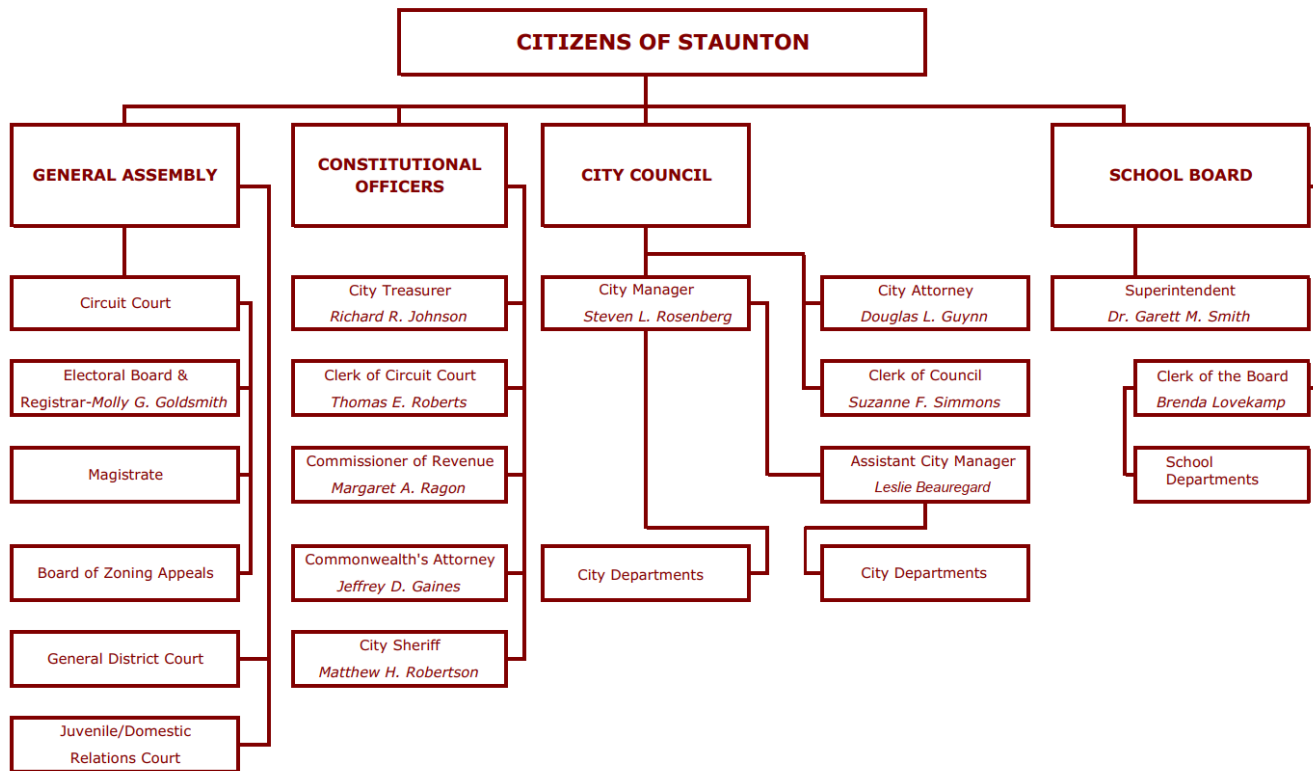
- ◆ President Woodrow Wilson
- ◆ Dr. Francis Collins
- ◆ and home of The Statler Brothers

Forms of Government



- ◆ Local government is a creature of the state
- ◆ Virginia is a Dillon Rule state
- ◆ Cities and counties separate and independent
- ◆ 190 towns
- ◆ 38 cities
- ◆ 95 counties
- ◆ 362 unincorporated communities (e.g., Short Pump, Tysons Corner, Fishersville, Verona, Stuarts Draft, Churchville)

Our Government Structure



What Does a City Manager Do?



- ◆ Appointed, not elected, based on training and experience
- ◆ Serves at the pleasure of governing body
- ◆ Carries out City Council policies and directives
- ◆ Acts as Council's chief advisor
- ◆ Supervises department heads, plans and budget
- ◆ Anticipates, avoids and adjusts
- ◆ Handles contracting
- ◆ Oversees all employment functions

What Does a City Manager Do?

Job is Never Boring

Manage a host of interesting plans, programs and projects; no two days are the same.

- ◆ Snow plow operation
- ◆ Trash and tree stump collection
- ◆ Dead rat removal
- ◆ Dog burial



A horizontal bar composed of several colored rectangular segments in shades of purple, olive, grey, yellow, and dark blue.

Thank You

Steve Rosenberg, City Manager

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