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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Mariah Moody Sworn in as City Administrator, Lezli Merritt as City Clerk at Bellevue Commission Meeting**

**BELLEVUE, FL** – The City of Bellevue officially welcomed new leadership at the February 4, 2025, City Commission meeting as Mariah Moody was sworn in as City Administrator and Lezli Merritt was sworn in as City Clerk. Both bring experience in municipal government and a deep commitment to serving Bellevue's residents.

#### **Mariah Moody Named City Administrator**

As City Administrator, Moody serves as the chief administrative officer for the city, working closely with all city departments to ensure that the policies and goals set by the City Commission are effectively carried out. In this role, she facilitates communication between the commission and department heads, supports long-term strategic planning, and helps oversee budgeting and financial management. While each department manages its own day-to-day operations, Moody collaborates with department leaders to coordinate city services, enhance efficiency, and drive projects that improve the community.

"I am truly honored to step into this role as Bellevue's City Administrator," said Moody. "Having worked within this organization, I've seen firsthand the dedication of our city's leadership, staff, and community members. My goal is to foster collaboration among departments, ensuring that our collective efforts align with the commission's vision and the needs of our residents. Bellevue is growing, and I'm excited to work alongside our incredible team to guide that growth in a way that preserves our small-town charm while embracing new opportunities."

Moody previously served as City Clerk, where she played a key role in maintaining official records, overseeing public meetings, and ensuring transparency in city government. Her experience in municipal operations has prepared her to step into the City Administrator role with a strong understanding of Bellevue's government structure and community priorities.

#### **Lezli Merritt Sworn in as City Clerk**

Succeeding Moody as City Clerk, Lezli Merritt now oversees the city's official records, supervises public meetings, and ensures compliance with public records laws. The City Clerk serves as the official custodian of city documents, coordinates meeting agendas, and works to maintain accessibility and transparency for residents.

"I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve Bellevue as City Clerk," said Merritt. "The integrity and accessibility of local government are essential to a thriving community, and I am committed to making sure residents can easily engage with their city government. I look forward to working closely with our commission, staff, and citizens to uphold transparency and accountability in everything we do."

Merritt brings a wealth of administrative experience to the position, most recently serving as the Executive Assistant to the Public Works Director, and is dedicated to ensuring that public records and meetings are handled with accuracy and efficiency.

## **Mayor Dobkowski Praises New Leadership**

Bellevue Mayor Christine Dobkowski expressed confidence in both Moody and Merritt, commending their dedication to the city and their strong leadership qualities.

“Mariah and Lezli have both demonstrated exceptional professionalism and a passion for serving Bellevue,” said Mayor Dobkowski. “Mariah’s experience working with our departments and city leadership makes her a great fit to help guide Bellevue forward, ensuring that our policies and goals are implemented effectively. Lezli’s attention to detail and strong organizational skills will ensure that our city records and public meetings continue to be handled with the highest level of professionalism. We are fortunate to have such dedicated individuals in these key roles.”

As Bellevue continues to grow, the leadership of the City Administrator and City Clerk will play a vital role in ensuring that the city remains well-managed, transparent, and responsive to the needs of its residents.

For more information about the City of Bellevue and its leadership, visit [www.bellevuefl.org](http://www.bellevuefl.org).