



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: September 27, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: Consider promoting two Police Officers to Police Sergeant

PREPARED BY: Lynn DeGrio

BACKGROUND:

At the September 13, 2021 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized City Staff to begin the process of filling two Police Sergeant positions; one temporary and one permanent.

The position was posted internally and resumes with cover letters were submitted. We received seven letters of interest and interviewed all seven candidates on Monday, September 21, 2021.

The Interview Committee consisting of Chief of Police Steve Schaar, Captain Andy Morgan, Captain Kevin Ott, and Lynn DeGrio, Director of Human Services are making the following recommendation:

1. Appoint Jeremy Nelson to the permanent Police Sergeant position effective October 1, 2021 at a rate of \$33.10 per hour; and
2. Appoint Matthew O'Rourke to the temporary Police Sergeant position effective October 1, 2021 at a rate of \$33.10 per hour.

Jeremy has been employed full time with the Grand Rapids Police Department since October of 2011. He has over 17 years of continuous full time law enforcement experience including one year as Chief of Police for the City of Hill City. He has also served as the Fire Chief in Hill City for the past 12.5 years and feels that that position has given him great experience in Public Safety administration that will benefit him, as a Sergeant, and also the Grand Rapids Police Department. Jeremy is currently an Investigator, so that assignment will need to be filled internally.

Matthew has 11 years full time experience as a licensed police officer with the City of Grand Rapids. He has worked very hard in his current position as a patrol officer and we believe he has the abilities and work ethic to be a great supervisor. Matt has a good working relationship with everyone in the police department. He is very knowledgeable in state law, constitutional rights, policy and procedure, and ordinances for the City of Grand Rapids.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to promote Jeremy Nelson to the permanent position of Police Sergeant and Matthew O'Rourke to the temporary Police Sergeant position at a rate of \$33.10 per hour effective October 1, 2021.