



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: January 27, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Consider appointment of Kiara Rantala to the position of Police Officer with the Grand Rapids Police Department.

PREPARED BY: Chery Pierzina, Human Resources Officer

BACKGROUND:

City Council authorized Human Resources to post, interview, and hire for a Police Officer position. From our posting, the City received four (4) applications. The interview committee interviewed three (3) applicants and are recommending the appointment of Kiara Rantala to the position of Police Officer, subject to successful completion and passing of a background check, drug testing, physical examination, and pre-employment psychological testing. A start date will be determined at a later date, based on the results of the pre-employment testing.

Kiara Rantala is from the Greenway/Coleraine area. She received her associates degree at MN North – Hibbing Campus and is currently working for the Coleraine Police Department. She is EMR and CPR certified. Based on the current Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Agreement, the Memorandum of Understanding approved at the March 13, 2023, City Council Meeting, and the Memorandum of Agreement approved at the February 12, 2024, City Council Meeting, Kiara will be starting as a new Police Officer with a starting wage of \$32.34 per hour and will follow the schedule for a new Police Officer for placement on the Flexible Time Off (FTO) table.

Kiara is enthusiastic and eager to get started with her career and will be an asset to the Grand Rapids Police Department.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to appoint Kiara Rantala to the position of Police Officer, subject to successful completion and passing of a background check, drug testing, physical examination, and psychological testing, with a start date to be determined at a later date, based on the results of the pre-employment testing, with salary and FTO placement as listed above.