

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: September 22, 2026

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Bob Grabowski, Fire Chief

Topic: Oath of Office – Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hope

PURPOSE

Staff requests that the Village Clerk administer the oath of office to Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hope.

PROCESS

Ryan began his career with the Homewood Fire Department in April 2025. He was the department's first non-EMS Firefighter/Paramedic hire in more than 20 years. Shortly after joining the department, Ryan attended the Romeoville Fire Academy, where he was selected by his peers to serve as the class Sergeant-at-Arms. He graduated in July 2025, earning his Basic Firefighter certification and receiving the academy's Class Leadership Award in recognition of his outstanding leadership and commitment throughout the program.

Ryan then shifted his focus to advancing his medical training by testing for and earning acceptance into the Ingalls Paramedic Program, which he began in August 2025. After nearly a year of rigorous coursework and clinical training, Ryan graduated from the program on August 5, 2026. He was awarded the Dr. Heilicser award, which recognizes a graduating student for academic achievement as well as being one who exemplifies the highest standards of clinical excellence, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to compassion and patient care.

Ryan is the son of Bill and Valerie Hope, and has two brothers in the fire service. Chandler, his oldest brother formerly worked in Homewood and is now a Firefighter/Paramedic in Berwyn, IL. His twin brother, Corey, is a Firefighter/EMT in Champaign, IL.

Ryan was raised in Carol Stream, IL and attended Glenbard North High School, where he wrestled all four years. After high school, Ryan attended Northern Michigan University and competed for Team USA as part of the United States Olympic Education Center in Greco Roman wrestling and was a 2016 Olympic Trials Qualifier. After wrestling, Ryan joined the United States Navy and attended the Basic Underwater Demolition SEAL Training. After completion of training, Ryan reported as a member of SEAL Team 5.

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After his military service, Ryan began the journey to become a firefighter/paramedic in August 2024. Ryan completed EMT school through Pelham Emergency Medical Training and shortly after, he was hired in Homewood. Ryan will begin his full-time career on Red Shift.

OUTCOME

Welcome Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hope to the Fire Department and Village.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** N/A
- **Budgeted Amount:** N/A
- **Cost:** N/A

LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Request that the Village Clerk administer the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hope.

ATTACHMENT(S)

None