



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA – City Manager

DATE OF MEETING: May 27, 2025

ITEM TITLE: Resolution appointing Brian Lau as the Independence Police Chief upon the retirement of the current Chief of Police

BACKGROUND:

Per Independence Municipal Code 30.06, the Mayor is responsible for appointing the Police Chief subject to the consent of a majority of the City Council.

DISCUSSION:

The Mayor formed an interview committee consisting of the two At-Large Council Members, Ralph Moore and Brian Prusator, the Mayor Pro-Tem and Ward 3 Councilmember, Michael O'Loughlin, the City Manager, and the Mayor to interview prospective candidates for the position on Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

After the interviews, the committee agreed that Mr. Brian Lau, current Police Captain, should be appointed Police Chief to serve once the current Police Chief, Mr. David Niedert, retires in late summer / early fall.

RESULTS:

The City has established priorities during strategic planning sessions. This item supports the Vision from that session of supporting high-quality City services. This item helps achieve that vision by appointing the most highly qualified individual to fulfill this role.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution formally appointing Brian Lau as the Independence Police Chief upon the retirement of the current Chief of Police.