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Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Aldinger and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Cathy Hanson, Human Resources Director

DATE: September 4, 2007

SUBJECT: Introduction of New Employees, Presentation of Service Awards and Recognition of Assistant Finance Director. **PRESENT**

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the following:

- 1) Introduction of new employees from the Human Resources, Community Development, Parks & Recreation and Police Departments;
- 2) Presentation of commemorative certificates and pins to employees who have completed 15 or more years of service to the City;
- 3) Recognition of Assistant Finance Director.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended actions.

BACKGROUND:

The City has a tradition of welcoming new employees by introducing them at Council meetings. This gives new employees an opportunity to meet the Councilmembers and Department Heads and experience firsthand how Council meetings are conducted in the City. This tradition includes recognizing promoted employees and presenting commemorative certificates and pins to long-term city employees.

DISCUSSION:

- 1) Introduction of New Employees

Cathy Hanson is our new Human Resources Director. She comes to us from the City of Azusa. Prior to that, she worked in human resources in the private sector for Kraft Foods, M&M Mars and Disney. She graduated from USC and received her Masters of Business Administration. She is originally from Minnesota and has been in California since 1989.

Angela Soo, Permit Technician, previously worked as a part-time Administrative Clerk II in the Community Development Department. She has a Bachelor's Degree in American Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to working in Manhattan Beach, she worked in

Taiwan as a Program Coordinator/English Teacher and as a Reporter with the Henderson Home News and Las Vegas Sun in Nevada.

Michael Brooke is our new Recreation Supervisor. He will oversee all facility and park operations west of Sepulveda Boulevard, supervise the Teen and Playground program and coordinate special events held in the city. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles. He previously worked for our City as a Recreation Leader, eventually becoming a Senior Recreation Leader for the Teen Center. He later worked as the Program Coordinator for the City of Santa Monica Senior Recreation Center where he coordinated all events, programs, facilities and classes for its senior population.

Steve Lancaster joined our Police Department in June of this year. He is a veteran serving as an Infantryman in the US Army. He also has seven years of law enforcement experience with the Riverside and Torrance Police Departments.

Gina Luttenegger worked as a police officer with Los Angeles World Airports for three years before joining our Police Department. She is originally from Missouri and has lived in the South Bay since 1991.

Police Officer Nicholas Braasch graduated from the Orange County Sheriff’s Academy on May 10, 2007. He is currently attending the California State University, Long Beach, majoring in Business Management. He previously worked at Rock Climbing Gym and Stoptech LLC.

Police Officer Michael Lynch graduated from the Orange County Sheriff’s Academy on May 10, 2007. He has an Associate in Science Degree in Business Management from El Camino College and is currently pursuing a four-year degree in business management from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

2) Presentation of Service Awards

The City wishes to recognize tonight the following employees for their dedicated service:

Raymond Dawson, Community Services Officer	25 years	Police Department
Timothy Zins, Police Officer	15 years	Police Department

The following employee are not able to attend tonight’s meeting, but the City wishes to recognize them for their dedicated service:

Robert Erikson, Water Supervisor	30 years	Public Works Department
Susie Myers, Human Resources Technician	25 years	Human Resources Dept.
Mario Martinez, Transportation Services Operator	15 years	Parks & Recreation Dept.
Barbara Rosenberger, Police Records Tech/Matron	15 years	Police Department

3) Recognition of Assistant Finance Director

Russell Morreale, Assistant Finance Director, is leaving the City after nearly 13 years of service. His new position is Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the City of Ventura. Russell’s accomplishments during his tenure with the City include:

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- Implementation of the Eden financial system
- Conversion of our water and refuse billing systems
- The addition of the Auto Pay feature for our utility customers
- Conversion of the Business Licensing system
- Completion of the updated cost allocation plan and user fee study
- Successful sale of debt for the Police & Fire facility, Marine Avenue Sports fields, Metlox, the RCC and numerous utility underground assessment districts
- Creation of the current budget format

Russ was also a key contributor in the City earning its AAA/Aaa bond ratings.

Russ' last day will be September 7th. We wish Russ the best in his new endeavor!