



Agenda Item #: _____

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: May 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Introduction of New Employees and Service Awards; Recognition of Employee of the Year, Police Officer of the Year and Firefighter of the Year; Recognition of Retiring Police Captain Dale Reissig

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the following:

- 1) Introduction of new employees from the Human Resources and Public Works 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 City Employee of the Year, Police Officer of the Year and Firefighter of the Year.
- 4) Recognition of Retiring Police Captain Dale Reissig.

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.

The City also recognizes employees who have performed outstanding work and provided excellent service to the citizens of this community. The City's Employee Recognition Program selects the Employee of the Year among city employees who have been chosen as employees of the quarter during the year. For 2007, the Employees of the Quarter were: Eugene Wee, Accounting Technician, Sandy Wong, Account Services Representative 1, Wendy Moreno, Legal Secretary and Rick Larson, Code Enforcement Officer.

The Police Officer of the year is selected by the Police Department's Rewards and Recognition Committee while the Firefighter of the Year is selected by the Manhattan Beach Firefighters' Association.

DISCUSSION:

1) Introduction of New Employees

Bill Friedel is the new HR Analyst in the Human Resources Department. Prior to joining the City, he worked as an HR Generalist for Gemstar-TV Guide in Hollywood California. Bill also worked in human resources with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) and Northrop Grumman. He was an instructor for Lockheed Martin and an Intelligence Analyst for both the National Imagery and Mapping Agency and the US Air Force. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Golden Gate University and is completing his Master's degree in Human Resources from Chapman University. Bill has his PHR (Professional in Human Resources) certification from The Human Resource Certification Institute.

Jorge Jaimes was hired as Maintenance Worker II in February of this year. Prior to his appointment, he was working with our Public Works Department as a temporary employee assigned to the Streets Division. Jorge will continue working in the Streets Division in his current position. His work experiences include general maintenance and construction. He previously worked for Craft Resources Inc. and C & L Construction.

2) Presentation of Service Awards

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

Henry Mitzner, Controller	35 years	Finance Department
Timothy Magdaleno, Police Officer	25 years	Police Department
Guy Mescheder, Fleet Supervisor	25 years	Public Works Department

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

Minda Hill, Executive Secretary	20 years	Human Resources Department
John Anderson, Gen. Svc. Coordinator	20 years	Finance Department
Gary Dusyn, Police Services Officer	20 years	Police Department

3) Employee of the Year

Rick Larson was hired in July 2006 as a Code Enforcement Officer performing the duties of a Residential Construction Officer in the Community Development Department. His responsibilities include meeting with contractors, clarifying City ordinances, enforcing construction hours and addressing noise and tree protection and sustainable (green) building concerns. Rick schedules neighborhood meetings for all the major construction sites and obtains code compliance and cooperation from residents and builders.

Due to Rick's proactive field work, the City Council receives less construction complaints from residents. The number of construction-related complaints decreased significantly from 2-3 times per day to 2-3 times per week. Some residents and contractors have commended Rick's work and recommended that he be nominated as Employee of the Year. Rick works well with all City departments and outside agencies such as the South Bay Dispute Resolution Services and Beach Cities Health District Care Manager for seniors. He works as a volunteer Manhattan Beach Reserve Officer on weekends and evenings.

4) Police Officer of the Year

Officer David Caveney started his career with the City in 1989. During the past 19 years, Officer Caveney's work assignments include: DARE Officer, Beach Patrol Officer, SWAT Team member, DUI Officer, Motor Instructor / Traffic Officer and Radar / Laser Instructor. Officer Caveney became a motor officer early in his career and received extensive training in Traffic Collision Investigations earning him the distinct ability to investigate both simple and complex investigations. He is an active member of the South Bay Regional DUI Task Force and his efforts and dedication were formally recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in 2007. Officer Caveney finds time to volunteer for extra duty assignments, special events and other department programs.

Officer Caveney strives to develop positive relationships in the community. He is recognized for his calm thinking, quick actions and professionalism during stressful situations and is often called upon by residents and business owners for assistance.

5) Firefighter of the Year

John Grimaldi, Fire Captain/Paramedic, started his career with the City on February 23, 1980 and was promoted to his current position in 1997. He has taken numerous fire services classes and certifications and is State Fire Officer certified. Due to his communications background, he was selected in 2002 to participate in the Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communications System (LARTCS) Interoperability Project resulting from 9-11. He attended conferences sponsored by Homeland Security and was selected to participate in a nationwide committee to develop and evaluate a national document called the Statement of Requirements which outlines the future of communications interoperability for the entire country.

John is the department's communications officer and assisted in the design of the communications equipment in the fire stations. He is a communications technician for wildland fires and national disaster incidents. He chairs the Area G Communications sub-committee under Area G Fire Chiefs and built its wildland radio cache which led to improved communications on strike team responses. He also works with RCC and assisted other cities with their communication needs.

6) Recognition of Captain Dale Reissig

Police Captain Dale Eric Reissig started his career as a Police Officer for the City in 1979. He worked as a Patrol Officer until January 21, 1984; transferred to the Administrative Division, Personnel and Training Bureau and later to the Detective Bureau. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1985, appointed as Police Lieutenant in 1990 and promoted to the rank of Police Captain in 2004.

Captain Reissig's special assignments included:

- Department Jail Manager
- Driving Training Program, Range Training (incorporating the ICAT system into the Department's firearms training), Field Training Program, K-9 Program, Reserve Officer Program, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team
- Department Chair for the Rewards and Recognition Committee
- Preparing the Police Department's budget and handling all grant proposals

During the construction of the new Police/Fire facility, Dale managed the Police Department's move to its temporary facility at Peck Avenue. He also managed the move to the new facility and worked as liaison to the Public Safety Building Project.

Dale is a graduate of Command College, Class 25, and acted as a mentor to those who have attended this program. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from California State University, Long Beach and a Master of Arts in Education from San Diego State University.

Captain Dale Reissig will retire on May 9, 2008. We extend to him our best wishes for a long, happy and prosperous future.