



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Richard Thompson, Interim City Manager

FROM: Cathy Hanson, Human Resources Director

DATE: January 19, 2010

SUBJECT: Introduction of New Employees, Employee Promotions and Service Awards;
Recognition of City Employee of the Year and Police Officer of the Year

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the following:

- 1) Introduction of new employees;
- 2) Recognize employee promotions;
- 3) Presentation of commemorative certificates and pins to employees who have completed 15 or more years of service to the City and
- 4) Recognition of City Employee of the Year and Police Officer of the Year.

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 Council Members and Department Heads and experience firsthand how Council meetings are conducted at 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 2009, the Employees of the Quarter were: Ravy Sok, Information Systems Specialist, Jeff Goodrich, Police Officer, Julie Dahlgren, Management Analyst and Susie Myers, HR Technician.

The Police Officer of the Year is selected by the Police department's rewards and recognition committee.

DISCUSSION:

Police Department:

Employee Promotions

Joe Aiello was recently promoted to Police Sergeant. Sergeant Aiello began his law enforcement career in 1990 with the Montclair Police department while serving in the United States Air Force. Sergeant Aiello joined the United States Air Force at the age of 17 and served 11 years. Sergeant Aiello began his career with the Manhattan Beach Police department in February 2000. Since his service with the Manhattan Beach Police department, Sergeant Aiello has worked in patrol, juvenile detectives, fraud/forgery, and field training. Sergeant Aiello has a Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix.

Brian Klatt was recently promoted to Police Lieutenant and is unable to attend tonight's presentation, but the City wishes to recognize his accomplishment.

Service Awards

Vincent Kennar, Community Services Officer, is not able to attend tonight's presentation, but the City wishes to recognize his 20 years of dedicated service.

Officer of the Year

Sergeant Brian Brown started his career with the City of Manhattan Beach as a Police Academy Trainee in 1997. He was promoted from Police Officer to Police Sergeant in 2004.

During 2009, Sergeant Brown has demonstrated distinguished service to the community of Manhattan Beach. One of the most notable events happened on Sunday, December 20, 2009. Sergeant Brown was working on an undercover surveillance detail and responded to a call of two young women caught in a rip tide who were possible drowning at the Pier. Prior to the Lifeguards arrival, Sergeant Brown borrowed a Boogie Board and entered the water in an effort to locate and assist them. He was able to locate the young women who were approximately 50 yards out in the water. After getting a hold of them he was able to bring them back to shore where they were met by LA County Lifeguards. Both women were injured while trying to hold onto the Pier pilings and were taken to the hospital for treatment. Lifeguard Captain Lee said Sergeant Brown's efforts likely saved the lives of these young women.

Sergeant Brown has also positively impacted the community through the enthusiasm, innovative vision, creativity and leadership he has brought to the Detective Bureau. Sergeant Brown has aggressively spearheaded and supervised numerous drug enforcement operations that have resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash, narcotics, numerous arrests and seizures of personal property. He has also implemented an on-line child predator investigation task force that works jointly with Los Angeles Police Department internet crimes against children unit. The narcotics unit continues to grow by leaps and bounds under his leadership.

Sergeant Brown has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and Administrative Studies from the University of California Riverside and most recently earned a Masters of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Chapman University.

Fire Department:

Employee Promotions

James Muth was recently promoted to Fire Captain/Paramedic. Fire Captain Muth began his fire career in 1987 as a Fire Engineer/Paramedic with the Alhambra Fire Department. Then in 1992 he moved to Washington where he worked for Central Pierce Fire and Rescue. In 1997, Firefighter Muth moved back to Southern California and joined the Manhattan Beach Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic. In 2002, he received a promotion to Fire Engineer/Paramedic. Fire Captain Muth was awarded Firefighter of the Year by the Fire Association in 2008. Fire Captain Muth is currently the Emergency Services Coordinator and will complete his Associates degree in the near future.

Service Awards

<u>Ken Shuck, Fire Battalion Chief</u>	30 Years of dedicated service
<u>Dan O’Neill, Jr., Firefighter Engineer/Paramedic</u>	30 Years of dedicated service

Larry Randall, Firefighter Engineer/Paramedic, is not able to attend tonight’s presentation, but the City wishes to recognize his 25 years of dedicated service.

Finance Department:

Employee of the Year

Ravy Sok started her career with the City of Manhattan Beach as an Intern in Information Systems in 2004. In 2006 she became a Microcomputer Support Specialist and earned a promotion to IS Specialist in 2008.

Ravy consistently demonstrates outstanding customer service to all of her internal clients. Sometimes described as a “life saver” or “go to” person, she continually demonstrates her excellent knowledge of IS as well as her desire to assist her clients. She was especially instrumental in helping employees throughout the inception of the City’s new web site. Employees can also count on her to assist them in their day to day tasks.

Ravy remains pleasant under any circumstances and never makes a co-worker feel inadequate for not knowing something technical. She is a team player both at work as well as outside of work (she plays for the City softball team).

She has a BS in Computer Science from California State University Long Beach and is working on her Masters in Public Policy & Administration.

Public Works Department:

New Employees

Clay Curtin is a new Management Analyst. Prior to joining the City of Manhattan Beach he worked with the City of West Covina with the Community Development Department. Clay has been a Regional Director for a national collegiate non-profit organization and worked for a U.S. Congressman in Washington, DC. He is on the Executive Board of MMASC and active in ICMA. Clay’s educational background consists of a Bachelors degree in Political Science from Washburn

University and a Masters in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University.

Employee Promotion

Bobby Dobson was recently promoted to Maintenance Supervisor for the streets division and is unable to attend tonight's presentation, but the City wishes to recognize his accomplishment.

Community Development Department:

New Employees

Nhung (pronounced "Noon") Madrid is a new Management Analyst. Prior to joining the City of Manhattan Beach she worked with the City of Lomita with the Community Services Department. Her public sector experience also includes an internship with the Torrance City Manager's office. Nhung's educational background consists of a Bachelors degree in Human Services from Cal State Fullerton University and a Masters in Public Administration from California Lutheran University.