



City of
CHARLOTTE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lewis and City Council Members

FROM: Gregg Guetschow, City Manager

SUBJECT: Confirmation of Police Chief Appointment

DATE: September 6, 2019

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.2 (a) of the City Charter, I am requesting City Council's confirmation of my appointment of Paul Brentar as Chief of Police. A resolution for this purpose will be found elsewhere in the agenda packet.

As Council is aware, Chief Lisa Sherman retired effective August 30, 2019. We solicited expressions of interest for filling the vacancy from current members of the department. Two individuals submitted resumes and were interviewed by a panel composed of the current Battle Creek police chief and me. In addition, both of the candidates were interviewed informally by other department heads. I weighed the information and opinions obtained in the formal interview and provided by department heads and Chief Sherman in arriving at my decision that Mr. Brentar was the better match for the position.

This was not an easy decision as both candidates have many years of experience with the department, and as sergeants, and have demonstrated good supervisory skills. Further, Chief Sherman made a conscious effort to provide opportunities for both candidates to enhance their management and leadership capabilities in preparation for moving into the chief position.

Paul Brentar has more than 18 years of law enforcement experience, 17 of those with the Charlotte Police Department. He has been a sergeant for the past 6 years. He has an associate's degree in criminal justice from Gogebic Community College and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Olivet College, the latter completed in August of this year. During his career Mr. Brentar has received additional training and certification in various aspects of police work. He has been employed as an instructor for defensive tactics, firearms and other law enforcement topics at Lansing Community College since 2014.