

**Memorandum  
Office of the City Manager**

**To:** Todd Thompson, City Manager  
**Subject:** Appointment of Robert Graff as Fire Chief  
**Date:** January 20, 2023



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The City Manager recommends the appointment of Assistant Chief Bob Graff to serve as Fire Chief.

Graff was selected following a thorough process that involved input from City Council members and interviews with a selection committee consisting of City Manager Todd Thompson, Police Chief Richard Landi and Human Resources Director Rob Baugous. Input also was provided by members of the Police and Fire Commission and a comprehensive assessment center was conducted by the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association.

Following City ordinance, the Fire Chief is appointed by the City Manager with the approval and consent of a majority of the members of the City Council.

Graff holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from Western Illinois University. He was hired by the Rock Island Fire Department in 1997 and promoted to Lieutenant in 2005. He became Captain of Special Operations in 2007 and Battalion Chief in 2010. He was appointed Assistant Fire Chief in 2016.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend the appointment of Robert Graff as Fire Chief be approved.

**Submitted by:** Todd Thompson, City Manager

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**Approved by:** Todd Thompson, City Manager