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PRESS RELEASE

Mayor Black Taps Lyons for Papillion Police Chief Job

PAPILLION, Neb., January 26, 2015 – Mayor David Black announced today his choice for the next Papillion Police Chief. The Mayor selected Scott Lyons from a group of three finalists. Lyons will be considered by the City Council at their meeting on February 3. With a majority vote of the Council, Lyons will become Papillion’s next Police Chief. He will be formally sworn in to the position in March.

Lyons is a Police Major in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. He’s also served as the department’s Interim Chief for the last year. Lyons started his police career in Raytown, Missouri in 1990. He has served in Lee’s Summit since 1995. He rose through the ranks there, making Detective in 1996 and Sergeant in 2002. He was a Police Captain from 2005 to 2008 before rising to the rank of Major.

“Major Lyons has worked in a community that has experienced significant growth. When he was initially hired as a patrol officer in 1995, Lee’s Summit had a population of 30,000 people and 50 sworn officers. Today, Lee’s Summit has a population of 90,000 people and 150 sworn officers. He has been where Papillion is going as a community. It is easy to see him leading our police department,” said Mayor Black.

The Mayor’s selection of Lyons is the result of a six-month hiring process that included the Papillion Civil Service Commission’s selection of three finalists. The other finalists were Chris Whitted, a Lieutenant with the Papillion Police Department, and Steve Rathman, the Chief of Police in Plattsmouth.

“I commend the Commission on the job they did in identifying the finalists,” said Black. “All three are excellent professionals, and any one of them was capable of being our next Chief. It made for a good but challenging decision.”

Major Lyons has extensive experience in working with an agency that is accredited by the Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA). The Papillion Police Department received their initial CALEA accreditation in 2012 under the direction of retired Chief Len Houloose.

Lyons is a 1989 graduate of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. He holds a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Central Missouri State University, which he completed in 1994. He has completed two leadership programs from the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety – Supervision of Police Personnel in 2003, and Police Staff and Command in 2007. Lyons is also a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy.

Papillion’s Police Department includes 44 staff members, including 39 sworn officers. Lyons would fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Houloose, who was Papillion’s longest-serving Police Chief.

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