

**City Council
Agenda Item 6.C
Meeting of May 18, 2026**



Title: Retirement recognition for Officers Scott Reis and Steve Paschke

Report from: Rachel Meehan, Police Captain

Submitted Through: Scott Boerboom, Police Chief
Erik Nilsson, City Attorney
Mike Funk, City Manager

Presenter: Mayor Schack

Action Requested: Informational

Form of Action: Other

Votes needed: N/A

Summary Statement

The City maintains a longstanding practice of formally recognizing employees upon their retirement. In keeping with this tradition, Officer Scott will retire on May 26 after more than 32 years of dedicated service to the City, and Officer Steve will retire on May 31 following 24 years of service.

Recommended Action

Recognize Scott Reis and Steve Paschke upon their retirement.

Strategic Plan Relatability

N/A

Financial Consideration

N/A

Background

Retirement Recognition – Officer Scott Reis & Officer Steve Paschke

Officer Scott Reis grew up in Owatonna, Minnesota, and began his law enforcement career in 1990 with the City of Rochester. He later joined the Zumbrota Police Department in 1992 before finding his long-term home with the Minnetonka Police Department in the winter of 1994.

Scott often shares that his first exposure to law enforcement came from watching the television show CHiPs, where he would find himself asking, “What would Ponch do?” That childhood curiosity eventually turned into a strong sense of purpose and a lifelong calling to serve.

As the youngest of three children, his parents like to joke that they “stopped at three” because Scott was such a terrible sleeper. Ironically, that trait has served him well, as Scott spent his entire 36-year career working the night shift. Anyone who has worked overnight shifts knows how demanding that can be, and doing it for an entire career speaks volumes about his dedication.

During his time with Minnetonka PD, Scott served in a wide variety of roles, including Field Training Officer, Reserve Advisor, Bike Patrol Officer, CounterAct Instructor, Peer Support Team member, Mental Health Response Unit member, and Crisis Negotiator. In each of these roles, he made a lasting impact on both colleagues and the community.

He was also involved in many high-tension crisis situations, earning several commendations. In one particularly serious situation, Scott spent 45 minutes in face-to-face negotiation with an armed individual who was holding his 10-year-old son hostage. Through calm communication and patience, he was able to secure the safe release of the child and the peaceful apprehension of the subject.

Beyond the department, Scott has also made a statewide impact. He has served as a presenter and coach for the Minnesota Crisis Intervention Team, an EMS Education Instructor for HCMC's Tactical Emergency Medical Police Officer training, and an instructor with LETAC, teaching Crisis Intervention and Mental Illness Crisis courses to law enforcement agencies across Minnesota.

More than anything, Scott is known for his empathy, his ability to connect with people in crisis, and his strong commitment to officer wellness and mental health. He's also known for his sense of humor, which is usually seen in the form of random little items showing up in unexpected places around the department.

In retirement, Scott is looking forward to spending time with his two daughters, and his wife and best friend, Megan, whom he recently married in April, as well as traveling and exploring new places and continuing his teaching work.

Congratulations, Scott, on more than 36 years of service. You will be greatly missed.

Officer Steve Paschke grew up in Brooklyn Center and earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing from St. Cloud State University. During college, he worked in the electronics department at Dayton's and enjoyed it so much that he continued there even after graduating. Steve still looks back on his time at Dayton's fondly and often reflects on it as a meaningful and impactful experience in his life.

Law enforcement wasn't initially part of Steve's plan. It was his mother who first suggested it after meeting Minneapolis police officers at a job fair. Once Steve explored the profession, he quickly realized it was the right fit. He attended law enforcement training at the Minneapolis Community College at night while continuing to work at Dayton's during the day, eventually becoming a Community Service Officer with the Mound Police Department.

Steve began his sworn career in 1996 with the Hutchinson Police Department through a federal grant program and served there until 2002. He then joined the Minnetonka Police Department, drawn by the department's strong reputation and colleagues who had made the same move.

During his time in Minnetonka, Steve served as a Bike Patrol Officer and Crisis/Hostage Negotiator. He is widely respected for his calm presence, steady demeanor, and genuine compassion in every interaction. Over his career, he received multiple commendations and life-saving awards. In one notable incident, Steve spent two hours building rapport with a person in crisis and ultimately persuaded them not to jump from a parking ramp, an example of his patience, skill, and quiet strength.

Steve has been married to his wife, Holly, for 35 years, and together they have three daughters: Jordan, Jessica, and Jenna. In 2018, the family endured the heartbreaking loss of Jenna due to an aggressive, undiagnosed brain tumor. The loss was deeply felt throughout the department. Steve and Holly are proud grandparents to five grandchildren - Harrison, Evelyn, Beckham, Quinn, and Abbigail - who bring them immense joy.

Outside of work, Steve is an avid cyclist and marathon runner. Grandma's Marathon and the Twin Cities Marathon have been part of his life since high school and have become a cherished family tradition, now shared by his daughters and their families. As he enters retirement, Steve looks forward to spending more time biking, running, golfing, and most importantly, time with his family.

Thank you, Steve, for 30 years of dedicated service and for the steady compassionate presence you brought to this agency everyday.

Scott and Steve, thank you both for your years of service, professionalism, and dedication. You have made a lasting impact on this department and the community you served, and you will both be deeply missed.