



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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Contact: Laurie Mullens
972-899-5131 / 940-597-3721
lmullens@highlandvillage.org

1000 Highland Village Road
Highland Village, TX 75077
www.highlandvillage.org

Highland Village Appoints Michael Thomson as Fire Chief

On February 26, City Council approved the appointment by the City Manager of Michael Thomson as Fire Chief for the City of Highland Village. Chief Thomson will begin in Highland Village on March 11. Thomson most recently served as Deputy Fire Chief in Addison. Before coming to Addison, Thomson rose through the ranks at Farmers Branch, achieving the rank of Division Chief of Training and EMS. He has extensive experience with developing and managing budgets, contract and compliance management, and grant writing. He also served as the project manager for the regional fire training facility shared by Farmers Branch, Addison, Carrollton and Coppell.

"I am both humbled and honored to serve as the next Fire Chief for the City of Highland Village. The opportunity to serve the residents and high caliber staff brings me a great sense of purpose and I am ready to hit the ground running," stated Chief Thomson.

Michael and his family live in Hickory Creek, and were recognized as the 2015 Greater Denton Family of the Year.

City Manager Michael Leavitt stated, "We received over 40 applications for the fire chief position. I am pleased to announce Michael Thomson as our new Fire Chief. He comes extremely qualified and will make a great addition to our team and the City of Highland Village."

Council approved two resolutions relating to the voter approved parks and recreation bond propositions. The first resolution authorized the construction of a softball field at Unity Park and the second authorized the construction of Phase 1 at Sunset Point Park. Phase 1 of Sunset Point Park includes three parking spaces, a street light for safety and security and bollards to limit vehicle access to other areas in the park. Engineering and design are complete on both projects. The contract for construction on both projects was awarded to North Rock Construction, LLC.

Council also approved the agreement with la terra studio for landscape and architectural services relating to the Unity Park entry and Kids Kastle entry feature. At the February 12 Council meeting the Parks Foundation President, Austin Adams, presented the Foundation's intent to donate \$125,000 to the City for the construction of the entry feature. The City will enter into an agreement with the Park Foundation for the donation to fund the design and construction of the entry feature.

During the City Manager and Staff Reports, the [2019 State of the City video](#) was shown. The video tells the story of the projects and initiatives under way or soon to be underway through the eyes of LISD students serving at City Staff and Council members.

The City Council early work session and regular session is available on HVTV (Spectrum 15; Frontier 43) and via website streaming by searching HVTV. The meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the city [website](#).