

## **SERVICE COMMENDATION FIRE CHIEF RICHARD “CHUCK” RIESTERER**

**WHEREAS**, In May 1982, **Richard “Chuck” Riesterer** began his volunteer service with the Troy Fire Department at Station 3. He joined the Roseville Fire Department in 1984. He served as a volunteer in Troy until he joined the Livonia Fire Department in January 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1989 **Chuck** was hired as the Fire Education Specialist for the City of Troy Fire Department, assigned to provide training and public education. He conducted two Firefighter recruitment training programs annually to qualify Troy and members from other area Fire Departments to become state certified firefighters. He also developed and presented various public education programs for local schools, businesses, and homeowner associations; and

**WHEREAS**, **Chuck** and his family moved back to Troy in 1991 and he rejoined as a Troy Volunteer Firefighter. At Station 3, he served as Firefighter, Lieutenant, Station Training Officer, and Station Assistant Chief. **Chuck** also served as president of Station 3’s social group, coordinating all social activities with the Station Assistant Chief; and

**WHEREAS**, On the Fire career path, **Chuck** was promoted to Fire Lieutenant in 1998 and assigned to Fire Prevention as a Fire Inspector. He performed fire/life safety inspections in commercial and industrial facilities; developed an electronic process to provide firefighters with hazardous material right-to-know information; and coordinated inspections with contractors during new construction. He also provided life safety oversight for large scale events including the Ryder Cup and visits from President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney; and

**WHEREAS**, **Chuck** was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal on December 4, 2015. His duties were to ensure code compliance for fire/life safety throughout the City; provide life safety oversight for large scale events including a visit from Vice President Mike Pence; and attend meetings for code development and improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, On February 5, 2021, **Chuck** was promoted to the position of Troy’s Fire Chief. In this role he served in a command/oversight role during several major incidents including a structure fire involving a 67,000+ square foot industrial building; NB I-75 south of Big Beaver, a fire involving a 14,000-gallon fuel hauler; and provided direction to the department and community during one of the worst health crises in national history, COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, **Chuck** also provided background information to City Council so that funding of \$2.7 million could be secured after the catastrophic failure of three apparatus in one year; re-established the Troy Fire Department Honor Guard; and implemented a stand-alone software package for tracking/reporting/recording equipment maintenance issues for oversight of operations; and

**WHEREAS**, **Chuck** is a graduate of the National Fire Academy with certifications in Education and Fire Protection Systems; and a member of SE Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs, North Oakland Mutual Aid Association, South Oakland Fire Association, Oakland Macomb Fire Prevention Society, National Volunteer Fire Council, and National Fire Protection Association. He is also a certified Fire Instructor; and

**WHEREAS**, **Chuck** retired from the City of Troy on April 29, 2022 and will now enjoy more time with his wife **Sue** (married 40 years on July 23, 2022), daughter **Breanne** and son **Matthew**; as well as enjoy traveling, visiting family, and enjoying the opportunities provided by a planned retirement. Their first trip will be back to Colorado where they spent their honeymoon;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN**, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Troy take this opportunity to express their appreciation to **Fire Chief Chuck Riesterer** for his professionalism and his many contributions to the Troy Fire Department for the betterment of the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER KNOWN**, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Troy, City Management, and the citizens of the City of Troy, extend wishes of prosperity, good health and happiness to **Chuck** during his well-deserved retirement years.

**Presented this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2022**