



# CLOQUET

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1307 Cloquet Avenue • Cloquet, MN 55720  
Phone: 218-879-3347 • Fax: 218-879-6555  
email: [admin@ci.cloquet.mn.us](mailto:admin@ci.cloquet.mn.us)  
[www.ci.cloquet.mn.us](http://www.ci.cloquet.mn.us)

August 10, 2016

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Corporal Scott Beckman  
1107 North 57th Ave. West  
Duluth, MN 55807

**Re: Recommendation to Suspend from Employment**

Dear Corporal Beckman:

I am hereby notifying you that: (1) I am recommending to the City of Cloquet City Council that you be suspended without pay for 10 days from employment with the City of Cloquet (City), effective August 24, 2016; and (2) you, along with a union representative, may respond to my recommendation to the City Council at a special meeting on August 24, 2016. More details related to this consideration are below.

**I. Procedure**

City Commander Derek Randall provided a memorandum to you, dated March 7, 2016, providing that there was an allegation of employee misconduct against you concerning your duties as a City police officer (Complaint) as follows:

On February 5, 2016, you responded to a call (16-026751), where you failed to ascertain the facts, accurately document, or record the information provided by the reporting party/witness in your police report.

Furthermore, on February 6, 2016, you, under oath, applied for a search warrant from Judge Macanlay that contained information you previously discovered to be untrue, which contradicts information documented in your police report.

If these allegations were proven true, it would be a violation of Procedure 1.050 (Professional Conduct of Peace Officers).

The City retained Pamela L. VanderWiel, Attorney, Everett & VanderWiel, PLLP to conduct the investigation into the Complaint. As part of the investigation, Ms. VanderWiel reviewed documents, interviewed witnesses, took a formal statement of you, and drafted an investigation report with relevant exhibits and submitted such report to me. Chief Stracek and I have reviewed and considered the report.

Scott Beckman  
August 10, 2016  
Page 2 of 3

You have been on administrative leave with pay and benefits since March 7, 2016 for which time you have been paid \$23,274.70 through the payroll of August 4, 2016 and accumulated paid vacation and sick leave.

## **II. Findings and Conclusions**

1. Scott Beckman knowingly omitted relevant information in a search warrant application on February 6, 2016.
2. Scott Beckman conducted an incomplete investigation in February 2016.

## **III. Opportunity to Respond**

The City Council will hold a closed portion of a special meeting to consider my recommendation to suspend you from employment with the City on **August 24, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 1307 Cloquet Avenue, Cloquet, Minnesota.**

You, along with a representative, may (1) attend a portion of the closed meeting regarding this matter; and (2) respond to my recommendation to suspend you from employment with the City. You may also submit a written response by submitting such response to me at any time before the City Council meeting on August 24, 2016. If you choose to submit a written response and I receive it before the meeting, it will be distributed to the City Council.

## **IV. Voluntary Resignation**

If you wish to voluntarily resign from employment with the City, you must complete and submit to me the enclosed Notice of Voluntary Resignation. Enclosed herewith is a Summary of Benefits you may receive and information that may assist you if you resign from employment with the City.

If you resign from employment with the City, you are eligible to receive payment for the balance of your remaining compensatory time, vacation and sick leave in the amount of \$18,387.03.

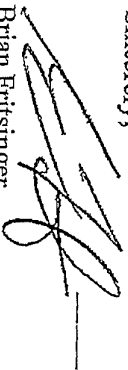
If the City Council takes action on my recommendation to suspend you from employment with the City, the City Council would be required to make a motion and vote in an open meeting. If there is a final disposition of disciplinary action against you related to this matter as provided under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, the specific reasons for the City's action and data documenting the basis of the action would be public data. If however, you voluntarily resign from employment before such disposition, such data will not be public in the context of your and the City's employer-employee relationship.

In the meantime, you will remain on administrative leave as specified by Chief Stracke in his letter to you of March 7, 2016.

Scott Beckman  
August 10, 2016  
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions or require any additional information regarding this matter, please contact me in person or at (218) 879-3347.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BF', written over a horizontal line.

Brian Fritsinger,  
City Administrator

cc: The Honorable Dave Hallback  
City of Cloquet City Councilmembers  
Steven Stracek, Chief of Police

Enes.