

Communication a Priority for Chief

(NEW CHIEF, from Page 1)

ment and our community.”

During his career in Seattle, Evenson served a diverse population with a strong tradition of community policing and problem solving. His experience includes budget oversight, labor relations, risk management and policy implementations.

Evenson joined the Seattle force 21 years ago after mustering out of the Army at Fort Lewis, where he met his wife, Debi. When he left, he was the captain in charge of the training division.

His accomplishments in the City of Seattle include:

- Establishing new patrol procedures ensuring that officers worked with the community to identify neighborhood hot spots and allocate adequate and appropriate resources to mitigate problems;
- Developing a regional training curriculum and working with the Violence Against Women Act to improve domestic violence investigations;
- Designing and implementing written procedures to deal effectively with complaints of biased policing, unnecessary force, criminal investigations and performance issues.

Evenson received a bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University in 2004 and attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and the Senior Management Institute for Police at Boston University.

During an interview, Evenson, 47, repeatedly stressed what a “fabulous” police department Brentwood has.

“My job is to maintain that professionalism and take it to the next level, to make a good thing even better,” he says. “My worst nightmare would be to have a decrease in that quality.”

Evenson, a native of California, says he wanted to be a police chief. So he turned his sights back home, applying



New Police Chief Mark Evenson

in Brentwood and several other cities.

“I was at the point in life professionally and personally where I wanted to make a change, and I wanted to do it in California,” Evenson says. “Washington is a beautiful area, but I was a captain and further advancement would be very slow. My wife agreed, and we started looking at different areas, narrowing our list based on livability and department relationships with the city.

“Brentwood definitely attracted me with how well run it is, the growth going on and how the department is perceived as a very good department,” he says.

Top priority for Evenson is communication – with the citizens and the department.

“What is important to the community? What does it expect? We have to let the community fully participate and partner with us,” he says.

“Nothing is changed. It’s going to continue to be a fine department, only enhanced,” he adds. “Citizens expect when they pick up the phone to ask for help, a patrol officer will be there to help them. At the same time, however, we have to communicate well and make sure we are out there in the community listening.”

CITY NUMBERS, MEETINGS

General Information

Phone 516-5400

City Manager & City Council

Phone 516-5440

Fax 516-5441

Community Development

Planning Division 516-5405

Housing Division 516-5405

Economic Development 516-5405

Redevelopment 516-5405

Building Division 516-5405

Automated Inspection Line 516-5395

Code Enforcement 516-5405

Fax 516-5407

Finance

Phone 516-5460

Fax 516-5401

Business Licenses 516-5480

Parks & Recreation

Phone 516-5444

Fax 516-5445

Police

Emergencies 911

Dispatch (non-emergencies) 778-2441

General 634-6911

Parking Enforcement 634-6911

Reports 634-6911

Public Works Engineering

Phone 516-5420

Fax 516-5421

Public Works Operations

Phone 516-6000

Fax 516-6001

Solid Waste & Recycling

Phone 516-6090

Fax 516-6091

Utility Billing

Phone 516-5415

Fax 516-5401

City Meetings

The City Council encourages citizens to participate in local meetings.

• **City Council:** meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month, 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 734 Third St.

• **Planning Commission:** meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month, 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 734 Third St.

• **Park & Recreation Commission:** meets 4th Thursday each month, 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 734 Third St.

• **Arts Commission:** meets 4th Wednesday each month, 7 p.m. at the Technology Center, 101 Sand Creek Rd., B.

• **Youth Commission:** meets 1st Wednesday each month, 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 734 Third St.

• **Brentwood Advisory Neighborhood Committee:** meets 4th Wednesday each month, 6 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 734 Third St.