

In June of 2013 I was appointed the Chief of Police for the Village of Elk Mound. Since then some things have changed, and unfortunately others have not.

In the fall of 2013 I bought a home in the Village and started a family in the Village. The reason I chose to do this was because of the Village's desire to have a part time agency. By not building on the land I own and moving to the Village it allowed me to be as responsive on the limited staffing as possible.

My commitment has always stayed with the oath I took to keep the Village and its residents safe. I have been able to take a Police Department the Village Board considered disbanding and turned it back into a full-time position.

Unfortunately working for the Village of Elk Mound is not what I expected. I had hoped some things would change that may increase a better working environment, but they have not.

I feel that personal feelings may be hindering the growth of our police department. Since my primary focus has been to create a full-time position for the Village, I have accomplished this task, and now it's time I pass the torch.

A full-time job currently with the Village of Elk Mound is not a position that I feel would be in the best interest of my family. My current career switch to the City of Chetek has been very rewarding and one I do not intend to vacate for the Village of Elk Mound.

Furthermore, the Village needs full time Police coverage, our residents deserve better coverage and our schools deserve better coverage than what they have currently been offered. I have no intention on continuing to support a part time agency as the lack of staffing allowed thus far has been detrimental for my agencies reputation with not only our citizens and victims, but other agencies as well.

I hope the Village can move forward to act on the approved budget. I would strongly encourage the Village of Elk Mound to reach out to Chief Anderson in Colfax and the Command Staff of the Dunn County Sheriff's Department in the event they would like assistance with selecting a suitable replacement to oversee the department.

The date I terminate my employment with the Village of Elk Mound may determine on the Village's plans. I do not intend to leave the Village with no police services.

However, starting May 3rd 2017, I will no longer be handling matters unless they are emergencies that threaten life and security in our Village.

I need to focus more on spending time with my family. It's been an interesting learning experience to serve the Village of Elk Mound over the last 4 years. Now it is time to help my Grandparents game farm Zwickey'z Pheasant Farm in Chippewa Falls. Focus more on my business Trigger Control LLC and my obligations to the City of Chetek.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Village and start a family here. Now it's time to take my family back home to the Township of Tilden. God Bless.


Chief Travis C Hakes 04/17/2017