



CITY OF TOPEKA

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NEWS RELEASE

EMS chief to serve as interim fire chief

A 15-year employee of the Topeka Fire Department will serve as interim fire chief until a permanent selection has been made.

Richard Sigle Jr., Chief of Emergency Medical Services, will begin Saturday, Aug. 20, as interim fire chief. Sigle will start these new duties after Chief Tim Wayne has fulfilled his six-month contract with the City, which ends Friday, Aug. 19.

“We selected Sigle after evaluating the best options for the organization,” said City Manager Jim Colson. “Sigle is the most qualified to fulfill this temporary task and continue the discussions we have initiated under Chief Wayne. I have full confidence in him.”

During his service as interim fire chief, Sigle will earn an additional 5 percent toward his salary. His current salary is \$93,019.32. A 5 percent increase amounts to an additional \$387.58 per month.

Sigle started at the TFD on Jan. 20, 2001. He rose through the rank of lieutenant before being promoted April 9, 2016, to EMS chief. Sigle has previous experience with ambulance services and has a training emphasis in EMS delivery.

“I’m humbled by the opportunity to serve as interim fire chief and by the confidence Mr. Colson has in my ability to carry on the work Chief Wayne started,” Sigle said. “I will strive to keep the Topeka Fire Department moving forward, keeping our citizens and fire department members as the top priorities.”

The City is in the final stages of selecting a permanent fire chief and anticipates a new chief starting by mid-September. The City posted the fire chief position on June 2, 2016, and has received 38 applications.