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The City of Alpena has recently promoted two long-time City employees to the positions of Fire Chief and Police Chief.

With the retirement of Fire Chief Bill Forbush on December 15th, Deputy Fire Chief/Training Officer, Rob Edmonds was promoted to the position of Fire Chief effective November 29<sup>th</sup>. Rob Edmonds began his fire service career as a volunteer, paid on call firefighter with the Sanborn Township Fire Department in Ossineke in 1988. He relocated to the Detroit area for one year to gain experience as a Paramedic working for United Ambulance out of Taylor and was an Echo Paramedic for Ogemaw County EMS for 1.5 years in West Branch before beginning his career with the Alpena Fire Department. He was the EMS Director for Alcona County for three years where he was responsible for the upgrade of the service from Basic Life Support (BLS) to Advanced Life Support (ALS). Through the upgrade he increased the full-time staffing to include Paramedics and a total of 28 personnel as well as the planning, design, and construction of two new fully staffed stations.

Rob joined the Alpena Fire Department in 1996 and has served in the roles of Firefighter/Paramedic, Lieutenant, Captain, and Deputy Chief/Training Officer. He is a Fire Instructor 1 and a Critical Care Paramedic Instructor/Coordinator. He is Fire Officer I, II & III certified and holds certifications as a Hazardous Materials Technician, Ice Rescue Technician, Rope Rescue Technician, ISFSI Live Fire Instructor, UMBC Critical Care Paramedic, and advocate for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation-Everyone Goes Home Program.

Rob received his Bachelor of Applied Science in Public Safety Studies from Siena Heights University in 2019 and is a graduate of the Eastern Michigan University's School of Fire Staff and Command Program class 18 in 2016. Rob is married to his wife Billi, and they have 6 children together and reside in Ossineke.

With the retirement of Police Chief Joel Jett, on December 30<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Eric Hamp was promoted to Police Chief effective December 27<sup>th</sup>. Eric began his career with the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Juvenile Division while attending school at Alpena Community College and Ferris State University where he earned Outstanding Student in Criminal Justice Law Enforcement as selected by the faculty of the College of Education and Human Services. Eric received his Associates Degree from Alpena Community College in 2001 and Bachelor's degree from Ferris State University in 2003. In addition, Eric received numerous awards during his college education including the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence for Outstanding Achievement.

Eric began his career with the Alpena Police Department in 2003 and has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. In addition, he recently graduated from the Eastern Michigan University's School of Staff and Command. Eric enjoys volunteering for the Alpena Hockey Association and Alpena County Youth Academy and is a physical fitness advocate.

City of Alpena  
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Eric is a lifelong resident of Alpena where he resides with his wife Dana and their two teenaged sons.

“I am excited that we have such qualified individuals to promote within our ranks and look forward to a bright future for both departments”, stated City Manager Rachel Smolinski.





NO PARK









PARKING