



The City of Manitou Springs has contracted recently retired Colorado Springs Police Chief Richard W. Myers to perform the job of Manitou Springs' Interim Chief of Police. In addition, longtime Finance Department employee Rebecca Davis was hired as Manitou Springs' new Finance Director.

City Administrator Jack Benson said that the City is fortunate to have Chief Myers on board, whose contract runs from January 9, 2012 until March 31, 2012. Myers' credentials are impeccable and he brings a broad perspective of policing practices from larger police departments to the much-smaller Manitou Springs Police Department. As the Interim Police Chief, Myers will assist the City in providing leadership and oversight of the police department, while performing an internal assessment of MSPD for purposes of guiding both the City Council and the future police chief with planning suggestions.

Myers said, "I'm pleased to be able to assist Manitou Springs in this capacity. Any transition of police chiefs, particularly a longer tenured chief, can be stressful on both the organization and the community as a whole. My goal is to help stabilize that transition, help the men and women of the department carry on their important work, and gather input from the community that can be helpful to the next chief."

Myers emphasized, "I'm not actively seeking permanent police chief positions. This assignment is consistent with my goal of staying based in Colorado Springs and seeking out longer term opportunities. I've had many discussions about opportunities in both the public and private sectors and this provides me some time to continue to explore what makes the most sense in the long term, even as I assist Manitou Springs."

Regarding the Finance Director's position, Rebecca Davis was chosen from a pool of three well-qualified candidates. Benson stated that choosing the right Finance Director was no easy task, but Davis brought a well-established work history with the City, strong accounting skills and a passion for the community as a whole. Davis has been the Deputy Finance Director for the City of Manitou Springs since 2005 and started with the City as a utilities clerk in 2003. Davis holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and is currently working on her Certified Public Finance Officer certification.

Benson said, "Having two critical positions turn over in a City our size is always stressful, but these two people will bring a new perspective and a measure of stability to both departments. We are thrilled with Ms. Davis's acceptance of her position and we look forward to bringing in the new Police Chief in the next few months."