



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montre' Freeman, City Manager
J. Phillip Webster, Interim Chief of Police

Date: February 24, 2023

Subject: Consideration / Presentation - Awarding of Gun and Badge to Police Sergeant Joseph M. Felton for Law Enforcement Retirement with Elizabeth City Police Department

BACKGROUND:

Effective March 1, 2023, Police Sergeant Joseph M. Felton will retire from the Elizabeth City Police Department. Sergeant Felton has 17 years of consecutive law enforcement service with the Elizabeth City Police Department and it has been customary in the past to award law enforcement retirees with their service weapons and badges in appreciation for their years of service with the City of Elizabeth City. Staff is recommending the established protocol be followed by awarding service weapon and badge to Retired Sergeant Joseph M. Felton.

ANALYSIS:

North Carolina General Statute 20-187.2 allows badges and service side arms to be awarded to law enforcement officers upon their retirement. NCGS 20-187.2(a) states: "Surviving spouses, or in the event such members die unsurvived by a spouse, surviving children of members of North Carolina State, city and county law enforcement agencies killed in the line of duty or who are members of such agencies at the time of their deaths, and retiring members of such agencies shall receive upon request and at no cost to them, the badge worn or carried by such deceased or retiring members. The governing body of a law enforcement agency may, in its discretion, also award to a retiring member or surviving relative as provided therein, upon request, the service side arm of such deceased or retiring members, at a price determined by such governing body, upon securing a permit as required by G.S. 14-402 et seq. or 14-409.1 et seq., or without such permit provided the weapon shall have been rendered incapable of being fired. Governing body shall mean for county and local alcohol beverage control officers, the county or local board of alcoholic control; for all other law-enforcement officers with jurisdiction limited to a municipality or town, the city or town council; for all other law-

enforcement officers with countywide jurisdiction, the board of county commissioners; for all State law-enforcement officers, the head of the department.”

The required weapon permit has been obtained from Sheriff Edward Basnight of the Chowan County Sheriff's Office and a copy of the permit has been provided.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, adopt the attached resolution awarding Retired Police Sergeant Joseph M. Felton his service weapon and badge as he retires from service with the City of Elizabeth City.



**RESOLUTION #2023-02-01
AWARDING BADGE AND SERVICE SIDEARM
TO RETIRING POLICE OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-187.2 provides that retiring members of municipal law enforcement agencies may receive, at the time of their retirement, the badge worn or carried by them during their service with the municipality; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-187.2 further provides that the governing body of the municipal law enforcement agency may, in its discretion, award to a retiring member the service sidearm of such retiring member; and

WHEREAS, Police Sergeant Joseph M. Felton served as a member of the Elizabeth City Police Department for a period of 17 years and will retire from the City of Elizabeth City on March 1st, 2023; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina that the badge and service weapon worn and/or carried by Police Sergeant Joseph M. Felton be awarded to him on the occasion of his retirement.

ADOPTED this 27th day of February 2023.

E. Kirk Rivers
Mayor

April D. Onley, NCCMC
City Clerk

PERMIT TO PURCHASE/RECEIVE A HANDGUN

State of North Carolina

Chowan County

Permit Number 2023-02-055

I, EDWARD B. BASNIGHT, Sheriff of said County, do hereby certify that I have conducted a criminal background check of the applicant, JOSEPH FELTON, whose place of residence is 217 MEXICO RD in Edenton (or) in IST Township, Chowan County, North Carolina, and have received no information to indicate that it would be a violation of State or Federal law for the applicant to purchase, transfer, receive, or possess a handgun. The applicant has further satisfied me as to his, her (or) their good moral character. Therefore, a permit is issued to JOSEPH FELTON to purchase one pistol from any person, firm or corporation authorized to dispose of the same.

This permit expires five years from its date of issuance listed below.

Issue this the 7th day of February, 2023.

Expires the 7th day of February, 2028.



Sheriff of Chowan County

CHOWAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
P.O. BOX 78, 305 W. FREEMASON STREET
EDENTON, NC 27932

To: Pistol Permit Applicant

From: Sheriff Edward B. Basnight

You have been issued a permit to purchase a pistol. This permit is valid **ONLY** in the state of North Carolina.

Let me remind you that this permit is to purchase a pistol and **DOES NOT** in any way authorize you to carry the weapon concealed.

If you should have to transport this weapon while in a vehicle, you should unload it and lock it in the trunk. If you carry the firearm under the seat, you could be charged with carrying a concealed weapon.

According to General Statute 14-402, if you should decide to sell or dispose of your pistol, the new owner is to obtain a pistol permit from their county of residence.

When you purchase a pistol, record the brand name, model and serial number and keep it in a safe place or bring the information to the Sheriff's Office and it will be registered for you. Should your firearm become lost or stolen, report the information **IMMEDIATELY** to the nearest local law enforcement agency.

Remember, **ALWAYS** keep your firearm stored out of the reach of children!



CHOWAN COUNTY
North Carolina