



Thursday, February 01, 2007

[Back](#) [Print](#)**Fire
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****ITEM No. 15**

Subject: Adopt an ordinance to establish classifications and positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department eliminate a position, and add a position and repeal Ordinance No. 20060911-005.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$35,977 is included in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

**Additional Backup
Material**

(click to open)

☐ **Ordinance**

For More Information: J J Adame, Fire Chief, 974-4100, Amy Singer, Chief Administrative Officer, 974-4120; Cathy Rodgers, HR Director, 974-2631

Prior Council Action: Classification Ordinance adopted by Council on 09/11/2006

This action increases the number of Battalion Chief positions by one and decreases the number of firefighter positions by one. This action is necessary because a Civil Service Hearing Examiner recently issued a decision reversing the Fire Chief's promotional bypass of a Captain to the rank of Battalion Chief, ordering that the Captain be promoted even though there is no vacant Battalion Chief position available. To comply with the Civil Service Act and avoid the impact of multiple demotions within the Department, the creation of an additional Battalion Chief position is necessary. The Austin Fire Department's intent is to eliminate this additional Battalion Chief position when a vacancy occurs in that rank in the future.

This ordinance repeals the classification ordinance adopted by Council on September 11, 2006 and establishes all positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department.

The total number of sworn positions increases by 1 over the previous ordinance.

Assistant Chief - 4 Division Chief - 4 Battalion Chief increases from 30 to 31. Captain - 70 Lieutenant - 171 Fire Specialist - 190 Firefighter - decreases to 587 from 588

The Texas Government Code, Chapter 143 requires Council action to approve changes in the number of positions in the firefighter classifications.

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CLASSIFICATIONS AND POSITIONS AND PAY IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, ELIMINATING A POSITION AND ADDING A POSITION, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 20060911-005 RELATING TO FIRE DEPARTMENT CLASSIFICATIONS AND POSITIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. The council makes the following findings:

- (A) The City adopted Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143 (*Municipal Civil Service*), which applies to members of the classified service in the Fire Department.
- (B) Chapter 143 (*Municipal Civil Service*) provides that the city council shall establish the classifications for the Fire Department and the number of positions in each classification.
- (C) The Fire Department recommends the elimination and creation of certain classified positions to improve the delivery of services and increase efficiency in the Fire Department.

PART 2. The civil service classifications of the Fire Department and the number of positions in each classification are established as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| (A) Assistant Chief | 4 |
| (B) Division Chief | 4 |
| (C) Battalion Chief | 31 |
| (D) Captain | 70 |
| (E) Lieutenant | 171 |
| (F) Fire Specialist | 190 |
| (G) Firefighter | 587 |

PART 3. The number of positions in the classification of Battalion Chief in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of one from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance.

PART 4. The number of positions in the classification of Fire Fighter in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of one from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance.

PART 5. The Base Salary Schedules attached to the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective on December 1, 2005 are adopted for each civil service classification.

PART 6. Ordinance No. 20060911-005 is repealed.

PART 7. The Council finds that the need to timely adjust authorized staffing in the classified service of the Fire Department constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

_____, 2007

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Will Wynn
Mayor

APPROVED: _____


David Allan Smith
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk