

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Budget RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 6

Subject: Approve an ordinance establishing classifications and positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department, eliminating positions in a certain rank, establishing pay rates, and repealing Ordinance No. 20090611-016.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire Chief, 974-0131; Amy Singer, Chief Administrative Officer, 974-4120

Prior Council Action: Classification Ordinance No. 20090611-016 adopted by Council on June 12,2009.

This ordinance repeals the classification ordinance adopted by Council on June 12, 2009 and establishes all positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department as well as salary and longevity rates.

The number of positions in the classification of Firefighter in this ordinance is a decrease of five from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance. The elimination of these five positions is necessitated by the economic downturn and will result in a real economy of governmental operations and greater efficiency with no adverse effect on public safety. The five positions being eliminating are vacant and are in the lowest rank. There is no active hiring list in effect from which to fill these positions. Additionally, this ordinance will maintain firefighter pay rates at current levels until a new collective bargaining agreement is ratified.

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 5
- (C) Battalion Chief 31
- (D) Captain 69
- (E) Lieutenant 177
- (F) Fire Specialist 196
- (G) Firefighter 592