



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Budget Work Session Meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2017, City Hall at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Adler called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m. Council Members Kitchen and Troxclair were absent.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Austin Fire Department budget and department overview.  
Presentation was made by Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Rhoda Mae Kerr, Chief, Austin Fire Department.

Direction was given to staff to provide the following: maps that include both AFD stations and EMS stations; an analysis of the response time for the Wildhorse station; the average number of calls received per day and the priority levels of calls received and responded to; information on what would be the appropriate amount of overtime if departmental vacancies were filled; data on residential group homes which includes the costs and call priority level for calls made by those homes; details on the 96% of the budget that is considered non-discretionary; information on why it takes so long for a new fire station to be built; data on the number of full-time employees making over \$100,000 (base and overtime) over the past few years; details on budget needs for wildfire prevention and preparedness needs; a recommended fleet replacement schedule; the amount of reimbursements from ESD for services provided by the call center; video that demonstrates how quickly a fire can spread; information on the impact that the types of construction materials used in a building has on how quickly a fire can spread; cost - benefit analysis of city issued cell phones compared to cell phone stipends; analysis of the effective cost of vacancies including costs associated with benefits, special events and four-member staffing; description of priority call levels; diversity breakdown of recent cadet classes; pay scales and benefits including pension issues compared to other cities and nationally; an analysis of providing the wellness center services in-house compared to a third party provider; a timeline for implementing the list of prior Council-approved actions; a breakdown of the overtime costs, including information on the amount reimbursed for special events; and the actual numbers rather than percentages for cadet hiring and educational services.

Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m. without objection.

**The minutes were approved on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 2017 on Council Member Pool's motion, Council Member Flannigan's second on an 11-0 vote.**