

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 11/08/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0931

LOG NAME: 36TEMPORARY STAFFING OVERAGE - CLASS 92

SUBJECT

(ALL) Adopt Ordinance Temporarily Increasing the Number of Authorized Positions in the Classification of Firefighter in the Fire Department by Twenty

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance prescribing the number of authorized sworn positions in each classification in the Fire Department, temporarily increasing the number of authorized positions in the classification of Firefighter by twenty, thereby increasing the total authorized civil service positions from 980 to 1,000 effective November 19, 2022; and effective until superseded by future ordinances.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) and the attached ordinance is to temporarily increase the number of authorized positions in the classification of Firefighter in the Fort Worth Fire Department by a total of 20 in order to have sufficient Firefighter positions for all of the members of Fort Worth Fire Recruit Class 92 who will graduate on November 18, 2022 and will be promoted to Firefighter on November 19, 2022.

There are 25 graduates in Recruit Class 92 but only five Firefighter vacancies are forecasted at the time of graduation. The need to add these positions is a result of the Department not generally carrying vacancies. In an effort to ensure that calls for service are met with optimum response times, the Fire Department strives to keep the number of Firefighter vacancies as close to zero as reasonably possible. To accomplish this goal, Academy classes are scheduled to correspond with projected vacancies, including retirements and promotions. Because the necessary vacancies in the Firefighter classification are not projected to be available to accommodate all anticipated to graduate in Class 92, the Department is seeking to temporarily increase the number of authorized positions in the classification of Firefighter.

On September 27, 2022, the City Council adopted its most recent authorized staffing ordinance for the Fire Department, which increased the total number of authorized sworn positions by six, prescribing the total number of authorized positions for each classification of sworn personnel, and providing for a total of 980 civil service positions (M&C 22-0725; Ordinance 25734-09-2022).

Approval of the attached ordinance, adding 20 Firefighter Positions for Class 92, would result in new authorized staffing levels as follows, effective November 19, 2022 and continuing until modified by subsequent ordinance:

Position	Current Authorized Positions	Change	Revised Authorized Positions	Temporary Authorized Positions	Future Intended Authorized Strength*
Assistant Chief	3		3		3
Deputy Chief	6		6		6
Battalion Chief	27		27		27
Captain	90		90		90
Lieutenant	132		132		132
Engineer	217		217		217
Firefighter	505	+20	525	21	504
TOTAL	980	+20	1,000	21	979

*The "Future Intended Authorized Strength" figure is based off of Staffing levels as of the adopted FY2023 budget.

NOTE – The staffing numbers shown in this M&C are tied to the adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 budget.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendation, funds are available in the current operating budget, as previously appropriated, in the General Fund. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Fire Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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Expedited