

**MINUTES
LOUISVILLE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016
6:04 P.M.**

Louisville City Council met in a special work session with Mayor-Council Member Fallot presiding.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUILLEY MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASAR, and the motion carried to approve the September 19, 2016 Work Session agenda. The vote: All yea.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia Fallot, Mayor-Council Member
Joanie Aljancic, Council Member
Cheryle Casar, Council Member
Rick Flory, Council Member
Richard Guiley, Council Member

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT

E. Thomas Ault, City Manager
Peggy Howald, City Clerk
Robert Duffrin, Law Director
Vince Marion, Director of Planning & Development
Rod Bordner, Fire Chief
Tiffany Justice, Deputy City Clerk

Council members bowed their heads for a moment of silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor-Council Member Fallot presented the City Clerk's Certificate of Open Meeting

DISCUSSION

City Council had a discussion regarding Fire Department personnel.

Fire Chief Rod Bordner addressed Council regarding the addition of 2 Lieutenants to the chain of command. Currently, there are no Lieutenant positions. This allows firefighters to be promoted and have advancement opportunities and something to look forward to and in order to stay with the Louisville Fire Department.

This would make the chain of command as follows:

Firefighter
Lieutenants (2 proposed)
Captains (3 currently) 4 budgeted
Fire Chief (1 currently)

In order to be promoted to a Lieutenant the firefighter must be a paramedic and Firefighter II. They will have 1 year to obtain their fire training card and fire inspection card. The three different current Captain positions are Training, EMS and Fire Prevention.

Currently, the Ordinance budget for 4 Captains and they receive a stipend of \$119.93 every pay. There are 3 Captains and Chief Bordner proposes splitting the \$119.93 of what would be the 4th Captain's stipend to \$59.97 to the 2 Lieutenant positions. Eventually, we will eliminate the stipend and put a set amount into the pay scale.

City Manager Tom Ault stated the reason for this Work Session is that it will call for an amendment in the current Ordinance and will allow a supervisor of some level at the scene more often.

Council Member Flory questioned why the Lieutenants have to be a Paramedic when only one Captain position calls for that training. Chief Bordner explained that if a Captain's position were to open up then the Lieutenant would be able to step into any of the three Captain positions.

Council Member Guiley questioned where the stipend money is coming from now and why it is there for 4 Captains when there are only 3? Mr. Ault commented that the 4th Captain left in May of this year for a full-time position elsewhere. The stipend is set aside in the General Fund to which it can be reallocated in the General Fund where the need arises.

Council Member Guiley questioned how does a firefighter get promoted to Lieutenant? Is there an exam?

Chief Bordner commented that he would prefer an appointment without an exam. He knows what the firefighters are capable of and who would be able to perform the duties of the position. In order to be promoted the criteria is:

- 3 years on the Louisville Fire Department
- Active
- Firefighter II (which they already have to be)
- Paramedic
- 1 year from promotion to become a Fire Safety Inspector and Certified Fire Instructor

Council Member Guiley questioned who pays for the training?

Chief Bordner answered it comes out of the Fire Department's training budget.

Mr. Ault stated that the job descriptions will need updated for the Captains position.

Council Member Guiley questioned why chain of command is so top heavy?

Chief Bordner responded that in the 30 years he has been here there have never been Lieutenant positions. By adding this rung in the ladder there is more likely to be a supervisory position on calls. It will enable staffing to be spread out more evenly with both Captains and Lieutenants. Adding another position will also give them something to look forward to obtaining and to be able to be promoted.

Council Member Flory questioned if it is the standard in the community of our size to have Lieutenants.

Chief Bordner replied that yes that is the normal.

Council Member Casar asked if there was a high school fire program in place.

Chief Bordner answered that there was not and too many stumbling blocks in order to start one, including that it would have to be done through the Explorers program, in conjunction with Marlinton, Osnaburg, and Louisville schools. The amount of work that it takes the firefighters to put on this program requires a significant amount of time.

Service Director Bill Glick arrived at 6:32pm

Chief Bordner informed Council that after the 9-11 processional the new fire truck was damaged causing repairs of \$3,500.

Council unanimously agreed to move forward with adding the Lieutenant positions. Chief Bordner and Mr. Ault will proceed with wording and job descriptions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Justice,
Deputy City Clerk