

ORDINANCE NO. 24-018

ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.03.074 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF GRADE I FIREFIGHTER POSITIONS IN THE BEAUMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM ONE HUNDRED NINE (109) TO ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE (121); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR REPEAL.

Section 1.

That Chapter 21, Section 2. 03. 074, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Beaumont be and the same is hereby amended to increase the number of Grade I Firefighter positions in the Beaumont Fire Department from One Hundred Nine (109) to One Hundred Twenty-One (121).

Section 2.

That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or the application of same to a particular set of persons or circumstances, should for any reason be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance and, to such end, the various portions and provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

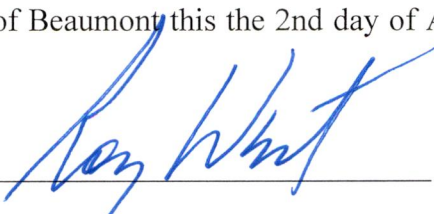
Section 3.

All ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, including conflicting portions of the City Budget, are repealed to the extent of the conflict only.

The meeting at which this ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Beaumont this the 2nd day of April, 2024.




- Mayor Roy West -

BEAUMONT

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TO: City Council

FROM: Kyle Hayes, City Manager

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2021

REQUESTED ACTION: Council consider amending Section 2.03.074 of the Code of Ordinances to add nine Grade I Firefighter positions.

BACKGROUND

The EMS Division, formerly a part of the Public Health Department, was moved into the Fire Department in early January of this year. The Administration is proposing to staff one ambulance, at this time, with firefighters, which will require hiring nine additional employees. The Code of Ordinances would be amended to increase the number of Grade I Firefighter positions from 100-109.

The Administration plans to staff City ambulances over time with firefighters who are also Paramedics; EMT-Intermediates or EMT-Basics. As firefighters are hired and the City can staff the desired number of ambulances each day, vacant civilian EMS positions will be eliminated. If the staffing of one ambulance with firefighters is successful and additional firefighter positions are added by the City Council in the future, the transition will likely take many years.

The purpose of this plan is to have a more secure staffing plan due to the high turnover of civilian employees in the EMS Division. A firefighter assigned to an ambulance will eventually be able to bid out into another Fire Department function such as Suppression, Logistics or the Fire Marshal's Office if he/she desires to. Second, this transition plan is already proving to be beneficial as a result of having a streamlined chain of command under the Fire Chief. Fire trucks are often the first responders to a medical call since there are 12 fire stations.

FUNDING SOURCE

The estimated cost to hire nine additional firefighters for the first year is approximately \$750,000 for base wages and benefits. It takes nine firefighters to staff an ambulance 24/7, while it takes seven civilians. The difference is because firefighters work a different schedule per their labor agreement. The net cost to the City of hiring nine new firefighters, versus seven civilian EMT-Intermediates, for the first five years, is an estimated 1,340,000 for base wages and benefits.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of this item.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-009

ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.03.074 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF GRADE I FIREFIGHTER POSITIONS IN THE BEAUMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM ONE HUNDRED (100) TO ONE HUNDRED NINE (109); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR REPEAL.

Section 1.

That Chapter 21, Section 2.03.074, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Beaumont be and the same is hereby amended to increase the number of Grade I Firefighter positions in the Beaumont Fire Department from One Hundred (100) to One Hundred Nine (109).

Section 2.

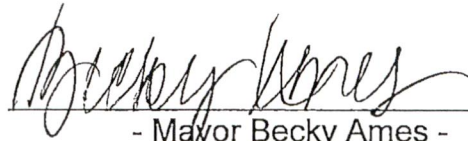
That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or the application of same to a particular set of persons or circumstances, should for any reason be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance and, to such end, the various portions and provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 3.

All ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, including conflicting portions of the City Budget, are repealed to the extent of the conflict only.

The meeting at which this ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Beaumont this the 9th day of
March, 2021.


- Mayor Becky Ames -

