



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: 2-26-2024

AGENDA ITEM: Consider approving revised Grand Rapids Fire Department Organizational and Operating Policies and Procedures with an effective date of January 1, 2024

PREPARED BY: Travis Cole-Fire Chief

BACKGROUND:

The City Council establishes policy for fire department employees that sets a minimum level of attendance for calls, drills, and meetings all firefighters must maintain to serve as an employee of the fire department and earn a year of pension service credit. It has come to my attention that our current policy which excused firefighters from calls when working needs revision to make sure service credit is determined based on the same number of calls for every firefighter. After discussions with the City Administrator and City Attorney, I am recommending the following change: all firefighters must attend a minimum of 40% of all calls, meetings, and drills on an annual basis to maintain good standing as a fire department employee and earn a year of service credit.

This change balances fire department and employee needs in a way that ensures an adequate response to fire calls to protect the community and maintain our ISO rating.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to approve revised Grand Rapids Fire Department Organizational and Operating Policies and Procedures effective as of January 1, 2024 with the understanding that should a firefighter fall below 40% for the calendar year 2024, those calls, meeting and drills in January and February under the old policy will be considered.