



CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

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| Meeting Date: | Tuesday, November 24, 2020 |
| Category: | NEW BUSINESS |
| Type: | ACTION |
| Subject: | Consider approval of an amendment to the 2021 Paid-on-call Wage Schedule |
| Background Information: | <p>Staff are requesting Council consideration and approval to amend the 2021 Paid-on-call Wage Schedule by adding a new HazMat Technician/Firefighter position and pay rate. This item was brought forward to the Personnel Committee on November 18th. The Personnel Committee recommended unanimous approval.</p> <p>The Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team is one of eleven HAZMAT teams that exists in the State of Minnesota. In 2019, the Department of Public Safety transitioned oversight of the eleven teams from the MN Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office to the State Fire Marshal’s Office. The Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team is the only team remaining that is a “stand-alone” team that is not part of a fire department.</p> <p>The State Fire Marshal’s Office was supportive of the Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team, however, they expressed concern over the long-term strength of the team related to numbers of personnel and encouraged us to consider combining the SW MN CAT Team with the Marshall Fire Department. In October of 2020, the low number of personnel within the SW MN CAT Team became a critical concern and has prevented us from being able to safely serve the fourteen-county area that is part of our service agreement.</p> <p>With support and encouragement from the State Fire Marshal’s Office along with discussion with the Marshall Fire Department, we have started the planning process to transition the SW MN CAT team into the Marshall Fire Department. The proposal we discussed with the Council Personnel Committee and are requesting approval from the Council is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Create a new truck company within the Marshall Fire Department. This new truck company would create a new captain and lieutenant position that would provide leadership to the Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team. 2) Transition current SW MN CAT Team members into the Marshall Fire Department at their current rate of pay. Provide opportunities to current SW MN CAT members to become firefighters if they choose. Open positions within the new truck company would be filled with current firefighters that have an interest in becoming HAZMAT Technicians. Firefighters completing the HAZMAT Technician certification would be compensated with an increase to their hourly rate of pay. <p>The Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team is a true asset to the community of Marshall and our surrounding fourteen county area. In an emergency situation involving hazardous materials, time is critical, and keeping the CAT Team based out of the City of Marshall is essential. Fire Chief Brunsvold and I are committed to keeping this asset in the City of Marshall. The changes proposed will improve the Southwest MN Chemical Assessment Team and the</p> |

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| | Marshall Fire Department as well as strengthen our emergency response to our community and region. |
| Fiscal Impact: | |
| Alternative/ Variations: | |
| Recommendations: | To approve the amended 2021 Paid-on-call wage schedule |