

Legislation Text

File #: 17-592, **Version:** 1

Presenter/Contact

Jared Werner, Director of Human Resources
(830) 221-4295 - jwerner@nbtexas.org

SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider approval of the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the number of positions in each classification in the New Braunfels Fire Department and New Braunfels Police Department pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 143 as part of the annual budget process.

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:

State civil service law requires that the City adopt an ordinance that prescribes the number of positions in each classification. This ordinance includes an additional two Police Corporals and one Fire Lieutenant that will be effective later in the fiscal year 2017-18, rather than effective on October 1, 2017. In the FY 2017-18 Budget, the EMS lieutenant was funded for six months. However, to take advantage of the existing promotional list for this position and avoid direct and indirect costs associated with re-testing for the rank of Fire Lieutenant, the attached ordinance authorizes the additional Lieutenant on January 1, 2018 (as opposed to April 1, 2018). Staff will generate savings both from not holding the additional test as well as savings from a vacant firefighter position that will occur due to our testing schedule. Here is a look at the three most recent fiscal years:

- FY 2014-15, 5 Police Officer positions were added.
- FY 2015-16, 3 Police Officer positions and 1 Police Corporal position were added.
- FY 2016-17, 4 Police Officers and 3 Fire Lieutenants were added. In December 2016, that ordinance was amended to abolish 1 Fire Captain position and add 1 Fire Battalion Chief position.

The staffing ordinance will be presented and adopted each fiscal year as part of the budget process.

ADDRESSES A NEED/ISSUE IN A CITY PLAN OR COUNCIL PRIORITY:

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding has been allocated in the FY 2017-18 Budget to account for these positions. Therefore, sufficient funds are available to support the staffing levels as described above.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.