

ORDINANCE NO. 6291

**AN ORDINANCE INCREASING STAFFING IN THE FAIRBANKS
FIRE DEPARTMENT BY SIX FIREFIGHTER AND THREE CAPTAIN
POSITIONS AND AMENDING THE 2024 OPERATING BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks Fire Department has three fire suppression platoons of 14 personnel each currently; and

WHEREAS, the Collective Bargaining Agreement requires a minimum staffing of 13 people per shift to deploy a command vehicle, two fire engines, an aerial platform cross-staffed with an ambulance, and two dedicated ambulances; and

WHEREAS, current staffing is unable to support any leave, injuries, illnesses, or training that removes more than one person off a shift; and

WHEREAS, excessive overtime is creating a fiscal liability for the City and is causing burnout that hurts employee retention; and

WHEREAS, adding six Firefighters will reduce overtime in the Firefighter and Driver ranks; and

WHEREAS, adding three Captains will reduce overtime in the Captain and Battalion Chief ranks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Fairbanks will hire six Firefighters and three Captains to reduce overtime and improve retention

SECTION 2. The addition of six Firefighters and three Captains to the Fairbanks Fire Department is hereby appropriated in the 2024 General Fund budget.

SECTION 3. The effective date of this Ordinance is five days after adoption.

David Pruhs, Mayor

AYES: Therrien, Sprinkle, Tidwell
NAYS: Ringstad, Marney, Cleworth, Pruhs
ABSENT: None
FAILED TO ADVANCE: November 18, 2024

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney

CITY OF FAIRBANKS
FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST:

Ordinance or Resolution No: 6291

Abbreviated Title: ORDINANCE ADDING FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL AND AMENDING BUDGET

Department(s): FIRE

Does the adoption of this ordinance or resolution authorize:

1) additional costs beyond the current adopted budget? Yes X No

2) additional support or maintenance costs? Yes No X

If yes, what is the estimate? see below

3) additional positions beyond the current adopted budget? Yes X No

If yes, how many positions? 9

If yes, type of positions? F (F - Full Time, P - Part Time, T - Temporary)

II. FINANCIAL DETAIL:

EXPENDITURES:	2024
SALARIES & BENEFITS [3 CAPTAINS AND 6 FIREFIGHTERS]	\$193,950
UNIFORMS AND PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	\$180,000
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES [EVALUATIONS]	\$4,500
MEDICAL EVALUATIONS	\$10,800
TOTAL	\$389,250

FUNDING SOURCE:	2024
GENERAL FUND [FIRE DEPARTMENT]	\$378,450
GENERAL FUND [GENERAL ACCOUNT]	\$10,800
TOTAL	\$389,250

The Ordinance adds three Captains and six Firefighters to the current budget for two months. The annual cost for a Captain is \$161,320 and the annual cost for a Firefighter I is \$113,290 for a total annual cost of \$1,163,700 for nine positions. These new positions will require uniforms and personal protective equipment, professional service evaluations, and medical evaluations. The city can anticipate overtime to continue at levels above 2020 (\$800K) but not at the level in 2022 (\$1.7M).

Reviewed by Finance Department:

Initial mb

Date 9/11/2024