

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee**

January 7, 2019

Members: Mike Brillhart, Chair
Drew Reilly
Vic Pallotta

Mr. Brillhart called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-134

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-134

An ordinance establishing the authorized staffing of the Fire Department, and declaring an emergency.

Fire Chief Fred Jackson stated that the ordinance before Council is a staffing ordinance for the Fire Department to make a small change in their staffing. The Fire Department has had Fire Marshals for nearly 40 years. The individuals serving in that role have varied from the rank of Firefighter to that of Assistant Chief. The current payroll is made up of two individuals. They interviewed seven individuals and believe they have the absolute best person. At this time, there are 73 members. There are 19 lieutenants. By making this change, there will be 20 lieutenants and they would go from having 49 firefighters to 48. This is a change of one Firefighter to become one Lieutenant at the cost of five percent, plus five percent of overtime, or in the neighborhood of less than \$5,000. The individual that has been chosen has a degree from The University of Akron, is a Firefighter 2, a paramedic, a Fire Inspector, a Fire Investigator, Public Safety Officer staffing one of two FAA Remote Drone pilots in the Department and a Tactical Medic. He also is the first person in the Department to complete the Police Academy of his own accord, so the Fire Department, for the first time, will have the opportunity of having a police officer trained and potentially commissioned, depending on further circumstance, but that has that knowledge and ability.

Mrs. Pyke asked what the name of the candidate is. Chief Jackson stated that it was Tom Carano. Mrs. Pyke stated that Mr. Carano is a very fine young man and will do an excellent job. Both Mr. Gorbach and Mr. Iona stated that they support the legislation. Chief Jackson stated that Mr. Carano is the person they want for interacting with the City's businesses and citizens on a daily basis.

Mr. Reilly moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-134 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Pallotta. Motion passed (3-0).

Mayor Walters announced that Community Development Director, Ms. Diane Sheridan, resigned as of last Friday, January 4. Ms. Sarah Leedham will be the acting director. Council can direct any questions regarding the department to Ms. Leedham or the Mayor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.