CITY OF MILWAUKEE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS



July 19, 2019

The Honorable Finance and Personnel Committee Common Council City of Milwaukee

Subject:

Common Council File No. 190560 - Communication from the Fire Department amending the Positions Ordinance relative to adding a position of Deputy Chief, Fire.

Dear Committee Members:

The Fire Department, in separate communication, has requested the creation of Position Authority for an additional Deputy Chief, Fire to work with all functions related to the Democratic National Convention (DNC). While the funding for this position is expected to be reimbursed by a DNC later this year, the work required supporting planning and preparation has already begun. A current Deputy Chief, Fire has taken on these DNC related assignments and a Battalion Chief has taken on the work of the Deputy Chief, Fire in the Special Teams Division. Creating this additional Positional Authority of Deputy Chief, Fire will allow the department to promote a Fire Department member to the rank of Deputy Chief, Fire in the Special Teams Division.

DER staff members have reviewed the job description provided by the Fire Department and concur that the responsibilities, impact, and skill required of this new position are in line with the current rank of Deputy Chief, Fire. This new position will serve as a member of the 2020 DNC Executive Steering Committee which has responsibility for planning and preparing the comprehensive unified incident command framework for the conference. This position will have oversight of relevant training and the efficient assignment of fire, emergency medical, and special teams resources in collaboration with other Fire Department Bureau heads. Other current Deputy Chief, Fire positions hold responsibility for fire, emergency medical service, training, and special teams resources.

As this new Deputy Chief, Fire is a current rank within the Fire department; and as the duties, responsibilities and requirements are comparable to those of the seven current Deputy Chief, Fire positions, DER recommends that the rank of Deputy Chief, Fire as the appropriate classification for this new position.

The DNC grant award will determine the expiration date of this position. This information will be added in the Positions Ordinance upon acceptance of the grant award.

Respectfully submitted.

Maria Monteagudo

Employee Relations Director