



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 39

Agenda Date: November 18, 2021

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Fire Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Charles Hood, Fire Chief

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Extension of Line of Duty Leave

SUMMARY:

This Ordinance would extend the line-of-duty (LOD) leave for Fire Engineer Joseph Faunce. He was charged accrued leave from December 5, 2019 until February 7, 2021 for an illness suffered while on duty on November 26, 2018. This ordinance will restore three thousand, two hundred and fifty-four (3,254) hours, or one hundred thirty-five and a half (135.5) shifts of accrued leave. Approval of this ordinance is only within the authority of City Council. The Local Government Code, Chapter 143.073, states that after the one-year initial period of leave, the municipality's governing body may extend the line of duty illness or injury leave at full or reduced pay. This will allow the Department to consider this period line of duty leave.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Fire Engineer Faunce was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma as a result of cumulative exposure to heat, smoke, toxins and carcinogens over the course of his career. Mr. Faunce underwent

oncology treatment to include chemotherapy, stem cell transplant and hyperbaric treatment for wound care. He continues ongoing treatments and therapies. Fire Engineer Faunce was on Line of Duty leave from November 28, 2018 until December 1, 2019. He began using additional accrued leave on December 5, 2019 until February 7, 2021. Fire Engineer Faunce was released to light duty on February 8, 2021.

ISSUE:

Fire Engineer Joseph Faunce seeks an extension of Line of Duty leave from December 5, 2019 until February 7, 2021 for an illness suffered while on duty on November 26, 2018. This extension will restore 3254 hours, or 135.5 shifts, of his accrued leave. Chapter 143 gives the City Council the authority to grant the extension of line-of-duty leave.

ALTERNATIVES:

Without approval by the City Council to grant the extension of line-of duty leave, Fire Engineer Faunce would be required to utilize earned sick leave for an illness which occurred during the performance of his official duties with the City of San Antonio.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fire Engineer Faunce might use his restored leave in the future and receive payment for up to three thousand two hundred and fifty-four (3254) hours, or one hundred thirty-five and a half (135.5) shifts of accrued leave. This ordinance has an estimated potential fiscal impact of \$134,520.36 based on current Collective Bargaining Agreement rates.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this Ordinance to extend the Line of Duty (LOD) for Fire Engineer Joseph Faunce.

