



South Davis Metro Fire Service Area

Meeting of the Administrative Committee

255 South 100 West, Bountiful, Utah via Zoom

April 9, 2020

2:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE:

NAME	POSITION / CITY REPRESENTED
Curtis Koch	Davis County
Brant Hanson	Centerville
Ken Leetham	North Salt Lake
Gary Uresk	Woods Cross
Duane Huffman	West Bountiful
Gary Hill	Bountiful

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeff Bassett, Fire Chief

Dane Stone, Deputy Chief

Dave Powers, Deputy Chief

Jessica Hardy, Accountant

Nikki Dandurand, Secretary

FY 2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION/BUDGET CALENDAR

Mr. Leetham stated that last week, the committee asked Chief Bassett and Ms. Hardy to revise some budget items which took out the merit raises and COLA increases. Two budget revisions were presented, "A1" and "A2". Chief Bassett's recommendation is budget "A1".

Chief Bassett explained reductions in the draft budget. The line items not funded from capital are 2 staff vehicles and 2 brush trucks. Line items from operations division not funded are education reimbursement, honor guard and office furniture.

Mr. Leetham stated that in the previous meeting, Mr. Uresk expressed his concern for the COLA/merit increases and asked if the members discussed the budget with their mayors. Mr. Hanson stated his mayor expressed concerns about the increases and the effects in the private sector. Mr. Uresk agreed. But both agreed that public safety needs attention and personnel need to be on hold. Mr. Uresk said they 100% support the first responders but was concerned how the public would view steps and COLA during this time of an unknown economy. Mr. Hill stated that his mayor has no concerns about the optics, just the affordability, and to recognize the first responders who are in harm's way. Bountiful

City's tentative budget includes employee merit increases and will wait until May to include COLA and Tier 2 contributions, which will stay at 3%. Mr. Uresk agreed with Mr. Hill but including COLA is not justified. Chief Bassett suggested the Board sees the proposed budget and wait until May to see the data. Mr. Huffman stated that we won't know much more in May because the retailers will have a delay in sales tax. Mr. Hill stated that May should be sufficient time because the quarter ended in March.

The committee discussed the Tier 2 retirement. The changes from the legislature included employer and employee share. The employer cost is 14.08% and the employee picks up the remaining 2.27%. Chief Bassett is purposing the department cover the employee cost of 2.27%. He also wants to add a Tier 2 401k of 5% for Tier 2 employees. This is being done in member cities today and some are adding it to their upcoming budget. The discussion was to support covering the employee cost of 2.27% and not move forward with a 401k match.

Chief Bassett stated a lot of cities are have added 6% or greater to Tier 2 employees and some are now offering hiring bonuses. We want to keep our employees here. They are stressed out; their work load and environment are difficult. We don't want to send the wrong message to the employees to eliminate their step and COLA. Mr. Leetham said that when the salary survey is complete, the report will be made and it will make good sense to everyone to see it. Mr. Huffman stated he is against any decision right now and would like to wait. Mr. Hill agreed.

Mr. Koch offered some input and general guidance from the County. The COLA should not be included, but it's wise to keep the step increases and Tier 2 contributions.

Mr. Uresk made a motion to support the "A1" tentative budget, with the caveat that next month the COLA could change on the economic conditions. A roll call vote was taken with all five cities saying "aye." The vote was approved 6-0.

Chief Bassett stated the next Administrative Meeting is May 7th; Board Meeting will be May 18th, with the first draft budget being presented. Mr. Huffman proposed the Board discuss the tentative budget in their April meeting as well. Chief Bassett said that is fine.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Bassett stated most of the recent meetings have been done by Zoom. The Board Meeting on April 20th will be done this way as well.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIR UPDATE

Mr. Leetham had nothing to report

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Leetham moved to adjourn the meeting.

Ken Leetham, Chair

Nicole Dandurand, Secretary