

**CITY OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

TO: Mayor Manier and City Council
FROM: Finance & Personnel Committee
DATE: November 16, 2017
SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings of Special Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Held on
Wednesday, November 1, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brucks at 4:33 p.m.

Present: Chairman Brucks, Mayor Manier, Alderman Cobb

Also Present: Alderman Butler, City Administrator Culotta, Controller Baxter, Washington Fire
Department – Kevin Byrd, Regina Slonneger, Tom Berlett

AGENDA

1. Non-member Alderman wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item – None.
2. Citizens wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item – None.
3. Business Items

A. Washington Volunteer Fire Department Contract

Alderman Butler serves on the negotiating committee for the Fire Department Contract. He indicated that the current makeup of the Fire Department Board is 5 members – 1 from the Department; 1 as appointed by the City; 1 from Pleasantville Fire District (east and south of City); 1 from Central Fire District (west and north of City) and 1 elected at large from the other 4 members. He said 4 out of the 5 members aren't in the City limits and yet the City provides the majority of the funding. As such, the City has an interest in increasing representation on the Board while allowing the Fire Department to operate autonomously. The Fire Department bylaws have been amended to reflect that the City will appoint 2 members of the Board and thus now the City contract also needs to incorporate these changes. The City also wants the ability to remove a non-performing Board member.

The Fire Department is proposing compensation equal to a 3% increase over the current contract for each of three years. In addition, a new pumper truck needs to be purchased and the City is requested to provide 50% funding of this equipment as has been done in the past. The request is for funding for replacement of the 30-year old pumper truck up to \$400,000 payable over five years. The City's share would be an amount not to exceed \$80,000 per year.

The Fire Department is still trying to work out the dual dispatch issues with Northern Tazewell Fire Protection District. Also, a financial review through periodic meetings was recommended. It was noted that the next contractual payment due would be reduced by \$25,000 due to an overpayment in the prior fiscal year.

Following discussion, on motion by Mayor Manier and second by Alderman Cobb, the Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the City Council approve the new three-year contract with the Fire Department as proposed. The contract will be considered for approval at the November 6, 2017 meeting where First Reading of the Ordinance could be waived.

4. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.