



UNIFIED FIRE SERVICE AREA FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 1, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.

Meeting was held both electronically via Zoom Webinar/UFA Headquarters

Committee Members Present:

Council Member Bailey
Mayor Hale
Mayor Sondak

Mayor Overson
Mayor Silvestrini

Staff:

Chief Petersen
CFO Hill
Cyndee Young

District Administrator Anderson
AC Pilgrim

Guests:

Aaron Lance
AC Burchett
AC Higgs
Division Chief Robinson
Erica Langenfass

Kate Turnbaugh
Kimberly Ruesch, Eagle Mtn.
Kioshi Young
Lana Burningham
Larson Wood

OC Dern
Pat Costin
Ryan Love
Steve Quinn

Meeting called to order by Chair Sondak at 2:34 p.m.

Public Comments

None

Public comment was made available live and with a posted email address

Minutes Approval

Mayor Hale moved to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2021, Finance Committee Meeting as submitted

Mayor Overson seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

Potential Market and CPI Wage Increases for FY22/23 – Chief Petersen

- ◆ Chief Petersen reviewed the data that has been acquired to date
 - ◆ There have been more increases for comparable agencies and Chief anticipates more in January
 - This data will be updated in preparation for Benefits & Compensation meetings
 - ◆ The CPI will be a big discussion for Benefits & Compensation
 - September – September saw a 5.4% increase, Chief felt that number might increase when evaluating Dec – Dec average

- ◆ Projecting major impacts to the Budget for FY22/23
 - ◆ To maintain market will increase the budget by \$730,000, a 1.3% increase to the Member Fee, however, HR is anticipating our comparable agencies may be providing mid-year increases in January
 - ◆ These increases will be reflected in the survey and presented to Benefits and Comp in February
 - Chief will be proposing increasing the over market of the Paramedic Rank to remain competitive
 - ◆ A 3% CPI will cost \$1.37 million (2.44% Member Fee increase)
 - A 5.4% CPI is \$2.5 million (4.22% Member Fee increase)
 - ◆ URS will see a reduction of 1% which results in a \$227,000 savings
 - ◆ Health insurance and Ambulance Revenue remains unknown at this time
 - ◆ The Capital Fund needs an additional \$200K in fund transfer to continue the smoothing of the Member Fee increases
- ◆ Chief Petersen stated that in order to hold the market, UFSA should consider a 5 to 5.5% placeholder increase for the Member Fee
- ◆ Benefits & Compensation will need to determine how best to hold Top 3
 - ◆ This should help hold the market wage and manage some inflationary costs, however, there will not be room for any other service improvements
- ◆ Mayor Hale stated that a sizeable increase is out of our control, it is important to stay ahead of the wave to maintain the Top 3 commitment
- ◆ Mayor Overson, Mayor Silvestrini, and Mayor Sondak echoed in agreement to not go backward
- ◆ Mayor Sondak clarified that the 3.5% remains for the first 6 months, this is strictly for the second half of 2022
- ◆ Council Member Bailey has received much feedback with recent tax increases
 - ◆ There will be a need for something specific to take to the Copperton City Council to justify these increases
 - ◆ Mayor Silvestrini agreed that it is difficult times for all
 - ◆ Chief Petersen reminded all that UFA has a great story to share with a clean, transparent budget to help people understand where the monies are spent
 - ◆ The Benefits & Compensation Committee and Finance Committee must determine where UFSA should be
- ◆ All UFSA Finance Committee Members agreed with applying a 5.5% increase to the Member Fee as proposed by Chief Petersen

2022 Tentative Budget – CFO Hill

- ◆ CFO Hill reviewed the tentative budget document
- ◆ Overall, the total UFA Member Fee increase should be close to a \$1.9M
- ◆ Mayor Sondak pointed out that the budget implies a tax adjustment to stay above the 15% Ending Fund Balance in FY23/24
 - ◆ CFO Hill explained reducing expenditures, both within and beyond our control is possible
 - ◆ It is up to the UFSA Board to determine how far ahead they wish to go
- ◆ The last tax increase was in 2018, Mayor Sondak reminded the committee that it's best to space tax increases out, but this appears as though it would be a large one in 2023
 - ◆ Mayor Sondak asked for clarification on the relationship between growth and increased need to spend funds on additional personnel
 - ◆ CFO Hill explained that the current station construction designs take into account growth of both the area and additional crews
 - ◆ Growth does not cover growth, it is used for maintaining, a tax increase is necessary, Utah Property Tax Law forces this situation
 - ◆ Inflationary monies are not available, raising property tax is the only way to increase funding

Mayor Hale recommends submitting the tentative budget to the UFSA Board of Trustees for consideration with the addition of 5.5% placeholder for UFA
Mayor Silvestrini seconded the motion
All in favor, none opposed

Closed Session

♦ None

Adjournment

Mayor Overson moved to adjourn the November 1, 2021, UFSA Finance Committee Meeting
Mayor Hale seconded the motion
All voted in favor, none opposed