



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SUNNYSIDE, WA
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

ITEM TITLE: Approval for MSO Position	PROPOSED COUNCIL ACTION: Approve Resolution
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SUBMITTED BY	Cameron Haubrich
EXHIBITS	Resolution MSO Job Description (Exhibit A) Class and Compensation Schedule (Exhibit B)
APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER	February 7, 2025

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$185,000.00
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ 0.00
BUDGET AMENDMENT	\$185,000.00

SUMMARY

One of the highest priorities for our community is ensuring public safety, promoting, and providing superior Fire and Rescue Services and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Arguably, the Sunnyside Fire Department, specifically EMS and ambulance service are the most successful service programs provided to our community by the city. In order to maintain this growing and successful program, staffing is needed to grow with the program, and to keep up with improvements needed to meet the increasing demands on EMS and Ambulance services. This includes training and certification requirements, increased call volume (averaging 10% per annum over the last 8 years). Bringing back the second, previously budgeted, Assistant Chief/Medical Service Officer will enable the Department to meet the growing needs and demands of these important services.

The position was previously filled and funded; however, the position was removed from the 2024 budget in 2023, despite not being the intention of administration. This position will be funded 100% through EMS and Ambulance revenues. There is sufficient fund balance available to cover the costs of the position for 2025. The addition of this position has no impact on the general fund. If approved by the City Council, the position will be added to the first budget amendment.

Staff provided a presentation to the Finance Committee and recommended the position be brought to the City Council for consideration. For clarification purposes, despite the city's current budget shortfalls, the EMS fund is healthy and more than capable of assuming and maintaining the expense of the position. In addition, the EMS fund supports all EMS functions including equipment, apparatus, operations, staffing, etc. and cannot be used to subsidize the general fund.

The proposed resolution authorizes the City Manager to fill the position and to amend the 2025 City of Sunnyside Classification and Compensation Schedule (Exhibit B).

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the proposed resolution authorizing the City Manager to fill the Assistant Fire Chief/Medical Services Officer position, and adopt an ordinance amending the 2025 Classification and Compensation Schedule to account for the second Assistant Fire Chief.