

City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

fire2

CHAPTER 1995-19

No. 450

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Approved AUGUST 1, 1995

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

SECTION 1. Findings.

The City Council finds the following:

1. Long-term trends dramatically show an increased need for rescue services and a diminished need for firefighting services.
2. In 1994, there were approximately 24,000 rescue responses for medical emergencies and only 324 responses for structure fires.
3. The number of rescue responses since 1972 have more than doubled while the number of structure fires have declined by 80% during the same period.
4. In 1973, the national engineering firm of Gage-Babcock, a specialist in fire protection analysis, recommended that the number of fire companies be reduced by six and in 1987 reaffirmed its 1973 recommendations.
5. During the last two decades, the number of structure fires has declined steadily, while the number of fire companies has remained unchanged.
6. In 1987, Gage-Babcock noted that fire-protection standards required by the insurance industry have been liberalized due to the use of many innovative safeguards which have reduced the risk of fire injury and property damage and that fire-protection standards would be met if Providence had as few as ten engine and ladder companies.
7. The proposed reorganization of the Fire Department would add an additional rescue company while eliminating three firefighting companies, resulting in twenty firefighting companies and six rescue companies..
8. The proposed reorganization of the Fire Department would adequately protect the safety of fire-fighting and rescue personnel.

No.

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AN ORDINANCE Providing for the
Reorganization of the
Providence Fire Department

SECTION 2. Declarations.

The City Council hereby declares that the public safety, health and welfare of the residents of the City of Providence would not be adversely affected by a reorganization of the Fire Department which reduces the number of firefighting companies from 23 to 20 while adding an additional rescue company, and that said reorganization is a valid public purpose in that it is necessary to protect the fiscal integrity of the City and to avoid a significant tax increase.

SECTION 3. The Fire Department shall consist of thirteen (13) engine companies, seven (7) ladder companies and six (6) rescue companies as set forth below:

<u>Engine Company</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Minimum Manning per Shift (Number of Firefighters)</u>
1	LaSalle Square	4
2	Branch Avenue	4
3	LaSalle Square	4
4	Rochambeau	3
6	Hartford Avenue	3
8	Messer Street	4
9	Brook Street	3
10	Broad Street	4
11	Reservoir Avenue	3
12	Admiral Street	4
13	Allens Avenue	4
14	Atwells Avenue	4
15	Mt. Pleasant Avenue	<u>3</u>
Total:		47

<u>Ladder Company</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Minimum Manning per Shift (Number of Firefighters)</u>
1	LaSalle Square	4
2	Messer Street	4
3	Admiral Street	3
5	Broad Street	4
6	Atwells Avenue	4
7	Branch Avenue	3
8	Brook Street	<u>3</u>
Total:		25

Rescue Companies

There shall be six (6) Rescue Companies with two (2) officers assigned per rescue company per shift. Rescue companies shall be stationed at fire stations at the discretion of the Chief of the Fire Department with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Safety.

There shall also be three (3) Battalion Chiefs on duty during each shift. The minimum complement of firefighting and rescue personnel shall number 87 per shift as specifically provided hereinbefore.

SECTION 4. The Chief of the Fire Department, with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Safety, shall implement the provisions of Section 3 as soon as practicable and may re-number the engine, ladder and rescue companies and reassign their respective stations and the personnel assigned to each company as set forth in Section 3 which in his/her judgment are necessary to insure the highest quality of firefighting and rescue services for the City.

SECTION 5. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall report to the City Council on implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance by September 15, 1995.

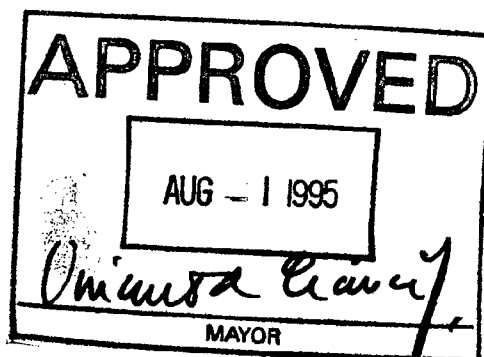
SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JULY 28, 1995

FIRST READING
READ AND PASSED*Michael R. Clement* CLERKIN CITY
COUNCIL

JULY 31, 1995

FINAL READING
READ AND PASSED*Edmund V. Fargnoli*
ACTING
Michael R. Clement CLERK

1132

THE COMMITTEE ON

FINANCE

Approves Passage of
The Within Ordinance, as amended

Charles B. Stewart
Chairman

July 24/1985

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