



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

RE: Creation of Local LEOFF Disability Board

September 6, 2016

On the September 19, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda, there will be an ordinance adopting Chapter 2.30 (new chapter) in the Camas Municipal Code, establishing a Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Disability Board. The draft ordinance is attached to this item.

The LEOFF system was created in 1970 for the purpose of providing for an actuarial reserve system for the payment of disability, death and retirement benefits to law enforcement officers and firefighters and to the beneficiaries of such employees, thereby enabling such employees to provide for themselves and their dependents in case of disability or death, and effecting a system of retirement from active duty.

The creation of the system also allowed for coverage of medical benefits and claims (both mandatory and discretionary) for LEOFF I Plan members until their death. This is administered by local disability boards, cities and counties, as well as the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems.

State law (WAC 415-105) states that cities under 20,000 in population shall have their claims handled by the County Disability Board. Once a city population is over 20,000, that City shall create their own local board. The City of Camas now exceeds the 20,000 population threshold.

Clark County has been processing the claims for Camas but we have notified the County that we will be creating a local board and intend to begin processing our own claims effective January 1, 2017.

The draft ordinance was created by the City Attorney and outlines the details regarding the board membership and meetings. The intent is to assemble the board by December so the Board can convene and adopt rules and procedures prior to the January 1, 2017 effective date.