

Hiring Set For Eight Firemen

WINTER PARK — City Manager Bob Proctor said he expects vacancies left by eight firemen who resigned to work for Seminole County Fire Department for better job opportunities will be filled within the week.

Proctor said numerous applications were received for the openings and they had been narrowed to 14. The applicants must be interviewed and qualifications and backgrounds checked by the Civil Service Board before the board confirms the hiring of eight.

The eight firemen who left received a cut in pay. However, Fire Chief Robert Finlayson said his department is small and opportunities for advancement are restrictive.

HE SAID Seminole offers them the opportunity they are seeking.

The eight resignations reduced the fire-fighting force to 32 men. All eight were members of the 33-man combat force spread out to cover three shifts.

The resignations, staggered, were effective Sept. 30 through Oct. 24 and the efficiency of the department will be somewhat hampered until the vacancies are filled according to Finlayson.

THE CHIEF said the men indicated they were dissatisfied with promotion possibilities in Winter Park and "disgruntled" because the city has not approved city employees a cost of living increase this year.

Finlayson described Winter Park as the fire fighters training ground for Central Florida, adding the program is the "best in the state."

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