



**THE CITY COUNCIL OF WATERLOO, IOWA
WORK SESSION TO BE HELD AT
Harold E. Getty Council Chambers
Monday, July 7, 2025
4:15 PM**

RULES FOR WORK SESSION PUBLIC COMMENT

Iowa Code Chapter 21 gives the public the right to attend council meetings, but it does not require cities to allow public participation except during public hearings. The city council shall not receive any public comment during a work session.

Roll Call.

Agenda, as proposed or amended.

Approval of Minutes of the June 16, 2025, Council Work Session minutes, as proposed or amended.

4:15 p.m. Discussion of House Bill 969 and Fire Department cancer prevention initiatives.

Submitted by: Bill Beck, Fire Chief

ADJOURNMENT

Kelley Felchle
City Clerk

Waterloo Fire Rescue's Cancer Prevention Initiatives

Presented by
William Beck
Fire Chief



1. What new state
legislation means to
Waterloo

2. What has Waterloo
Fire accomplished

3. What work yet needs
to be done

Waterloo Fire Rescue's
Cancer Prevention
Initiatives



Glossary of Terms

- Iowa Code Chapter 411
- Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI)
- House File 969
 - Presumptive Cancers



Iowa Code Chapter 411

refers to a retirement
and disability system
for permanent, full-
time firefighters and
police officers in
participating cities in
Iowa.



Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI)

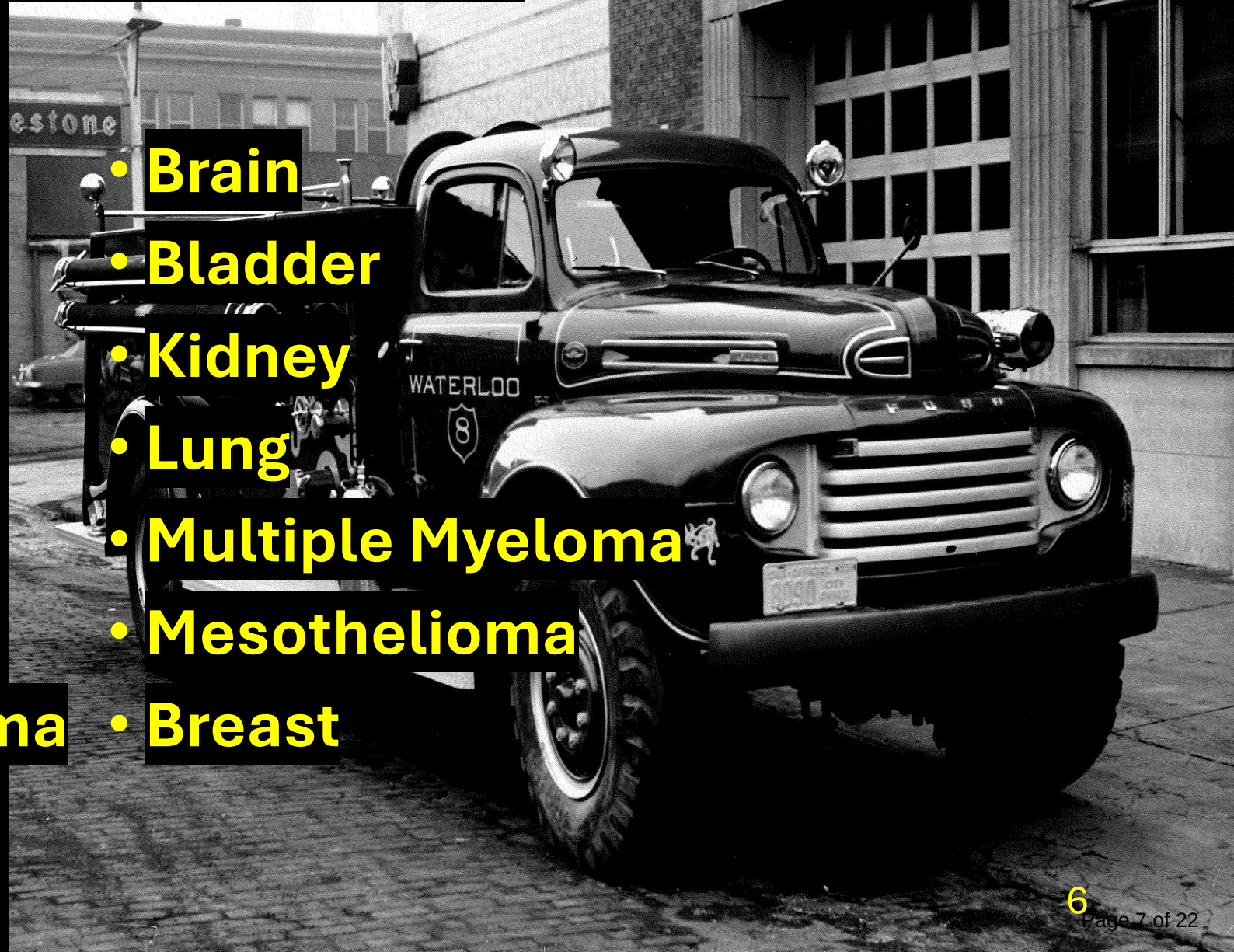
Gives benefits to retired
members, those with
disabilities, and surviving
spouses and dependents.

41 participating cities in
Iowa for firefighters (49 for
PD)



Previous Presumptive Cancers

- Prostate
- Ovarian
- Cervical
- Uterine
- Malignant melanoma
- Leukemia
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Brain
- Bladder
- Kidney
- Lung
- Multiple Myeloma
- Mesothelioma
- Breast



What HF969 defines and changes

Defines “Cancer” as:

a group of diseases involving abnormal cell growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of the body.

Changes all cancers as presumptive.

Increases the reporting window for retirees from 1 year to 3 years



The Average Costs of Cancer (Treatment Only)

Testicular Cancer (100% higher rate)

\$17,000-\$50,000

Multiple Myeloma (50% higher rate)

\$75,000-\$250,000

Colorectal Cancer (30% higher rate)

\$40,000-\$120,000

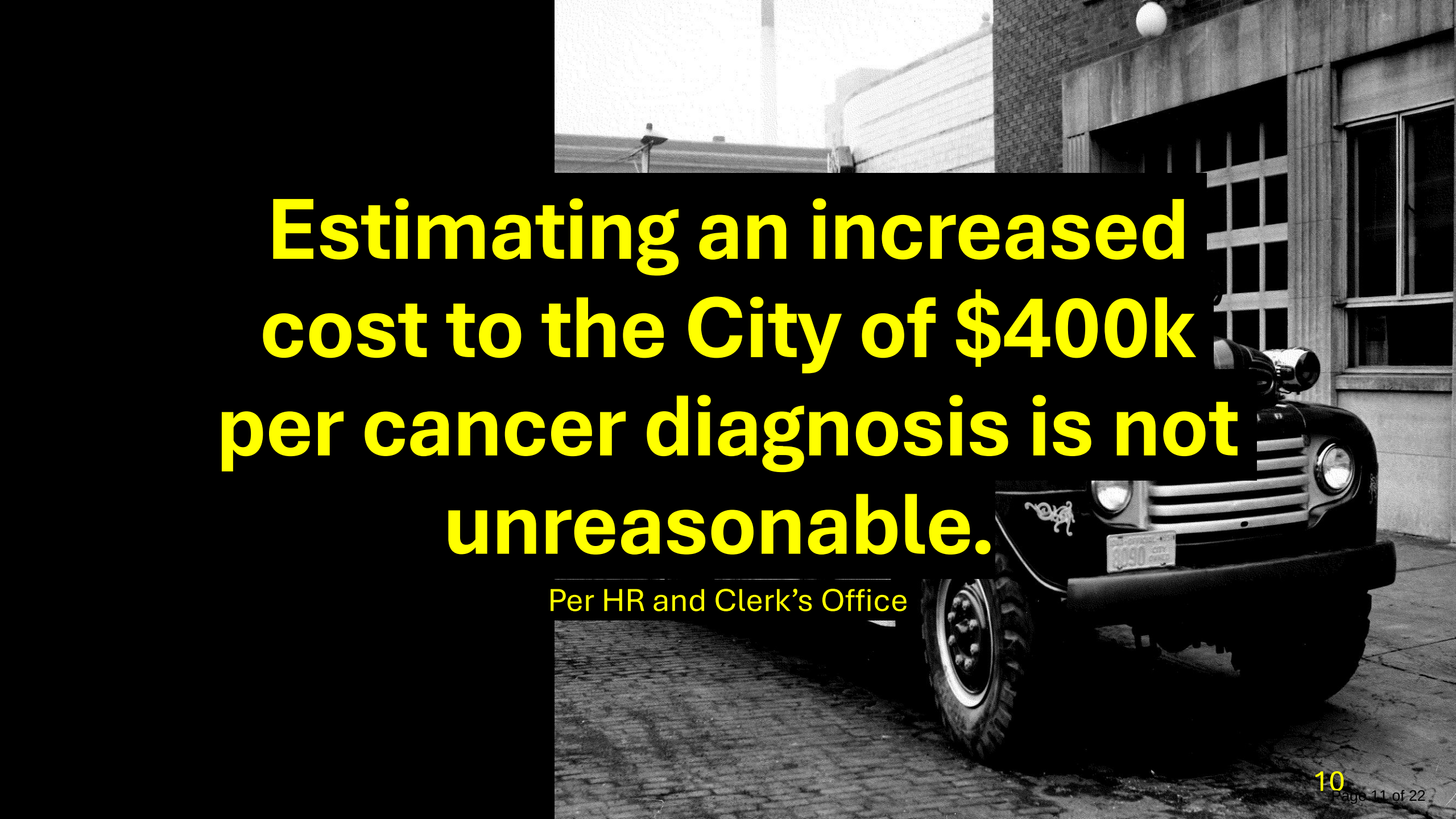
Firefighter have a 9% higher rate in all cancers and a 14% higher mortality rate than an average citizen



HF 969's Liability Increases for the City

- Non Work-Related Cancers
- Stop loss at \$100,000
- No health care subsidies
- Work Related Cancers
- Stop loss starts at \$750,000
- Subsidized health care until 65





**Estimating an increased
cost to the City of \$400k
per cancer diagnosis is not
unreasonable.**

Per HR and Clerk's Office

What are we already doing to prevent Cancer at WFR?

- All Fire Lieutenants hold additional responsibilities
- Lt Jon Kieler is the WFR Cancer Prevention officer.
- This extra assignment was created in 2023.



Uniform Changes

Boonie style hats
utilized in:

PR Events

Boating Calls



What are we already doing to prevent Cancer at WFR?

Lead based fuels

Cleaner Gas and Diesel motors



Exhaust Capture Systems

Installed in Station 6

One of two stations
that require apparatus
to back in



Cleaner Gear

Awarded Fireworks
Grant



Radon testing and Mitigation

Testing was performed at all stations with basements

Findings were

- High at Station 5

- Moderate at Station 4

- Low at 1s, 3s, and 6s

Radon mitigation is finished at Stations 4 and 5



Saunas

Located at Station 3 and Station 6

Part of a decontamination strategy coupled with showers to remove any carcinogens absorbed through the skin.



Station Specific Paging

System is paid for, installed and working properly.



What still needs to be done

Short term goals



Long term vision goals



What still needs to be done

Short term goals

Continual Diesel Capture Installation

Carcinogen purifying air systems for living quarters

Build a schedule for fire gear replacement



Long term vision goals

Clean Cab Systems

SCBA Cleaning Systems



Questions?

