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City of West Allis Matter Summary

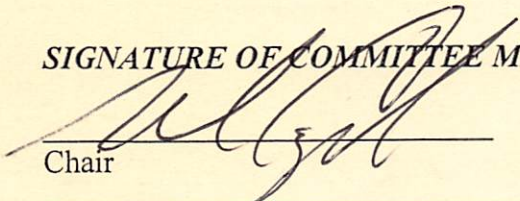
7525 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214

File Number	Title	Status
2004-0590	Communication	In Committee
Chief of Police communication regarding the use of \$16,000 in overtime for additional enforcement efforts on Highway 100.		
Introduced: 10/5/2004		Controlling Body: Administration & Finance Committee

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION POF

ACTION DATE:	MOVER	SECONDER		AYE	NO	PRESENT	EXCUSED
<u>10-5-04</u>	✓		Barczak	✓			✓
			Czaplewski	✓			
			Dobrowski				
			Kopplin				
			Lajsic	✓			
			Narlock				
		✓	Reinke	✓			
			Sengstock				
			Vitale				
			Weigel	✓			
			TOTAL	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>1</u>

SIGNATURE OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

 _____ Chair
 _____ Vice-Chair
 _____ Member

COMMON COUNCIL ACTION place on file

ACTION DATE:	MOVER	SECONDER		AYE	NO	PRESENT	EXCUSED
<u>10-5-04</u>	✓		Barczak ^{exc}	✓			✓
			Czaplewski	✓			
			Dobrowski	✓			
			Kopplin	✓			
			Lajsic	✓			
			Narlock	✓			
			Reinke	✓			
		✓	Sengstock	✓			
			Vitale	✓			
			Weigel	✓			
			TOTAL	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>



CITY OF WEST ALLIS

WISCONSIN



September 10, 2004

Mayor Bell and Members of the Common Council
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
Dean Puschnig
Chief of Police
SEP 17 2004

CITY OF WEST ALLIS
CLERK/TREASURER

RE: Additional enforcement efforts on Highway 100

Dear Mayor Bell and Members of the Common Council:

Earlier this year, the Common Council approved \$16,000 in overtime for additional law enforcement efforts on Highway 100. We requested these funds because of an increase in cruising and other problems in the residential neighborhoods surrounding the Highway. With this funding we were able to assign an additional four officers on Friday and Saturday nights between the hours of 9:00 PM and 1:00 AM. We initially requested to cover a ten-week time period from April 23rd through June 26th. Because of inclement weather on several occasions, we were able to stretch this funding out until the middle of August.

On Friday and Saturday nights (from 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM) our officers made contact with 627 people, issued 482 uniform traffic citations, 94 warning citations, 31 trespass parking tickets on private property and made 15 other arrests. Listed below is specific information on the types of traffic citations issued.

Type of Traffic Citation	Number
Equipment violations	217
Vehicle registration	100
Drivers license violations	62
Speeding	30
Miscellaneous violations	27
Failure to fasten seatbelt	21
Unnecessary noise	12
Racing	8
Alcohol (OWI etc)	5
Total	482

This past summer, we received very few complaints on cruising issues from citizens in the residential neighborhoods. This helps demonstrate that this enforcement effort was a success. We provided a very necessary police presence, which helped protect the citizens, businesses and at least for a short time improved the quality of life in the residential neighborhoods. Unfortunately, two weeks ago, (on a Wednesday night approximately 10:35 PM) an innocent person was killed because of two cruisers street racing.

I believe that the revenue generated from this enforcement effort should far exceed the additional costs associated with this effort. As I mentioned in my last communication on this matter, over the last few years, we have succeeded in reducing the total number of overtime hours paid by over 5,000 hours annually. However, to be honest our overtime budget is inadequate to meet the needs of the community.



Members of the Administration and Finance Committee

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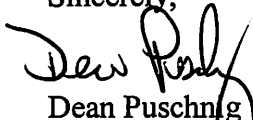
RE: Overtime budget and additional enforcement efforts on Highway 100

Police overtime is directly related to the crime rate in the city, the number of calls for service, number of incident reports, number of arrests, charging conferences in the District Attorney's office, and the court system. If we have the officers (which we do the majority of time) complete their reports on shift - many times we don't have enough squads on the road. This save us from paying overtime, but ultimately has a direct impact on our response time, arrest rate and future crime rate.

As you know any revenue that is generated from the Police Department (from traffic, municipal arrests and parking citations - a total of almost \$2,500,000 annually) is deposited into the general fund. We're not allowed to use this money to offset our salary or overtime accounts. I know we're not in the business to make money, however it would be nice to have some type of latitude in our budget to provide additional law enforcement in a particular area of the city without worrying so much about the costs associated with the enforcement initiative and the possible ramifications of going over budget.

Once again, thank you for providing us with this additional funding and for your continued support. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at (414) 302-8017.

Sincerely,


Dean Puschnig
Chief of Police

cc Police and Fire Commission
Paul Ziehler