



# City of West Allis

## Matter Summary

7525 W. Greenfield Ave.  
West Allis, WI 53214

File Number	Title	Status
2003-0424	Communication	In Committee
Communication from City Administrative Officer transmitting a Common Council letter on the State Budget situation that would be directed to the Police & Fire Commission.		
Introduced: 06/17/2003		Controlling Body: Administration & Finance Committee

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVER: Barczak AYES 4 NOES 1 (Czaplewski)  
SECONDER: Lajsic EXCUSED \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMITTEE ACTION DATE 6-17-03

### SIGNATURES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chair \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMON COUNCIL ACTION

FINAL ACTION DATE 6-17-03

MOVER:

Czaplewski

SECONDER:

Lajsic

	AYE	NO
1. Barczak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Czaplewski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Kopplin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Lajsic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. <del>Murphy</del>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Narlock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Reinke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Sengstock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Trudell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Vitale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weigel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>



# CITY OF WEST ALLIS

WISCONSIN



**PAUL M. ZIEHLER**  
*City Administrative Officer*

June 9, 2003

The Honorable Mayor Jeannette Bell  
and Members of the Common Council  
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue  
West Allis WI 53214

Dear Mayor Bell and Common Council Members:

Attached is a letter that has been prepared for consideration by the Common Council at the June 17, 2003 Common Council Meeting. As you can see, the letter is being directed to the Police & Fire Commission for its consideration. Upon your approval, the letter will be signed by Common Council President Sengstock and Administration & Finance Committee Chair Czaplewski (on behalf of the Council) and transmitted to the Commission, with copies to the two chiefs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul M. Ziehl'.

Paul M. Ziehl,  
City Administrative Officer  
Clerk/Treasurer

PMZ:jfw

cc: Wayne Clark  
Chief Hook  
Chief Puschnig

ADM\ORDRES\MCC.P&FBudget





# CITY OF WEST ALLIS

WISCONSIN



West Allis Police & Fire Commission  
11301 W. Lincoln Avenue  
West Allis WI 53227

Dear Commissioners:

We know you are aware of the financial situation that the City is going to face due to the loss of shared revenue and/or levy limits in our upcoming 2004 City budget. We regret that we may have to seriously consider cutting services or eliminating positions. However, with 83% of our budget in salaries and benefits, our main option for true savings is in those areas.

Some City departments have already responded with reorganizations in the effort to save money. These departments include Health, Development, Engineering, and the Clerk/Treasurer's Office. We also have a current proposal from the Public Works Department Head to go to curbside-alley-side pick up, which would eliminate six to seven positions savings approximately \$350,000 per year. However, a tremendous morale problem exists with a number of our City workers complaining that they do not see the same kind of effort, savings, or cuts from the Police and Fire Departments.

Recently, it was pointed out to us by Chief Puschnig that the Police Department has taken steps to raise new revenues, change procedures where necessary, and is currently holding many positions open. Through these various means, Chief Puschnig has saved \$300,000-\$400,000 last year and continues to save similar amounts this year due to keeping these vacant positions open.

In regards to the Fire Department, we have not seen the same effort. A recent reorganization provided by the Fire Department actually added another Assistant Chief position from savings that could have been realized when the Public Works Department took over maintenance of vehicles from the mechanic position being eliminated. Very little money, if any, was saved on it and will most likely cost the City more money in the future. It seems that Chief Hook does not understand the need for innovative thinking, financial alternatives, or different ways to deliver the same services. He does not seem to understand that cuts will be necessary from his department, and we must do things in different ways to save money.

West Allis Police & Fire Commission  
Page 2

We hope you will continue to seek changes from the Police Department, but more importantly, we ask for your cooperation in bringing this needed direction to the Fire Department. We will cooperate and support any decisions you make regarding these matters.

Sincerely,

James W. Sengstock,  
Common Council President

Michael J. Czaplewski,  
Chair, Administration & Finance Committee

ADM\CORR\P&F.BUDGET SITUATION