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April 15, 2025

The Honorable Mayor Dan Devine and Members of Common Council 7525 W. Greenfield Avenue West Allis, WI 53214

Mayor Devine and Common Council Members:

The Information Technology Team has always strived to maximize the amount of protection we have against Cyber Security threats while minimizing the cost to the taxpayers. Our investments to date include software solutions like virus protection programs, Next Generation Firewalls, Multifactor Authentication (MFA), Staff awareness campaigns (phishing) and internal IT personnel analyzing unusual computer activity. While this has worked in the past – we feel more is needed going forward. This feeling is supported by CVMIC and our Cyber Insurance Coverage, implementation of MFA and MDR may also have a direct effect on premium costs.

Managed Detection and Response (MDR) solutions look holistically at all channels where computer threats emerge, feed logs into Al Threat Analysis programs, and present potential threats to a 7x24 team of experts. The vendors that provide these services charge their customers on a pay-as-you-go subscription-based licensing model.

By applying for and receiving a \$100,000 grant from the State Local Cyber Security Grant Program, then issuing a request for proposal (RFP) to find the best MDR solution for West Allis, we have an opportunity to leverage an MDR solution for 36 months for very little cost to the City (\$100,000 paid via the grant, \$12,754.88 paid for out of the General Account). Once the 36-month period ends, the City can simply cancel the subscription, continue with the service at an estimated cost of \$50,000/year, or explore other alternatives that develop over time.

Today, we are looking for your support to this concept. If we are given the green light to proceed, we will have a resolution on the consent agenda at the May 6th meeting to enter a 36-month contract with the preferred MDR provider.

This presentation has more details for those interested: CyberSecurity Update.pptx

Greatly appreciate your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Tony Warkoczewski IT Director

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