

City of West Allis Matter Summary

7525 W. Greenfield Ave. West Allis, WI 53214

File Number Title Status

2004-0059 Communication In Committee

Rudy Pfister, 1627 S. 56 St., communication regarding cut backs in City spending.

Introduced: 2/3/2004 Controlling Body: Administration & Finance Committee

COMMITTEE	RECOMM	ENDATION _		101			
ACTION DATE: FEB 0 3 2004	MOVER	SECONDER	Barczak Czaplewski Kopplin Lajsic Narlock Reinke Sengstock Trudell Vitale Weigel	AYE	NO	PRESENT	EXCUSED
Chair Vice-Chair COMMON COUNCIL ACTION PLACE ON FILE					Member		
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1627 S. 56th St. West Allis, WI 53214

Adr

WEST ALLIS, WI

January 19, 2004

City of West Allis
Attention- Common Council Members
7525 W, Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214

RECEIVED

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CITY OF WEST ALLIS

Common Council Members:

Having asked the city leaders time and again to cut back their free-spending ways, I will once again list a number of problems that call for action. A sincere effort to reduce the financial load being passed onto our stressed-out taxpayers would be very much appreciated....

- a) How about the smoke and mirrors coming from City Hall on the property tax increase reduction to 1.0%, when ONE MILLION DOLLARS from a reserve fund is used as a one-time transfer to make the administration look good! It is obvious that if the spending will not drop there will be a major tax increase for the year 2005 with no reserve to fall back on.
- b) When a top executive at City Hall was asked if it was usual for part-time elected officials to get city paid medical, dental, eye care insurance as well as pensions, he stated that it was commonplace in other communities. That is dead wrong! Newspaper statistics indicate that West Allis benefits sharply exceed that of other southeast Wisconsin cities.
- c) Another sleight of hand appears to come from reports there will be a downsizing of fire department ambulance personel. Such a move will require approval from the Fire and Police Commission as well as the City Council, but considering past performance, it is very unlikely that cutbacks will take place. We will hear that citizen safety requires the present level of employees and I see continued featherbedding likely instead of layoffs.
- d) For years I have pointed out that luxury fringe benefits can bankrupt our taxpayers, and as verification, I note recorded from a December 2003 Common Council meeting agenda a proposal to authorize the borrowing of \$13,000,000 "....for the purpose of paying off a portion of the City of West Allis' unfunded Wisconsin Retirement System prior service pension liability".

It is long past the time when City of West Allis Government leaders--<u>and</u> rank and file -- cut back on waste in order to serve our people at the lowest possible cost!

Budy Pflister