



Monday, August 4, 2014

Mayor Dan Devine  
Finance Director Mark Wyss  
City of West Allis  
7525 W. Greenfield Ave.  
West Allis, WI 53214

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Charles Padgett  
*Chief of Police*  
Robert Fletcher  
*Deputy Chief of Police*  
Christopher Botsch  
*Deputy Chief of Police*

Dear Mayor Devine and Mr. Wyss,

We have had two squad cars involved in serious crashes that were inspected by our mechanic and representatives of insurance companies involved in each incident who are of the opinion they both are total losses and in need of being replaced. The details of each are as follows:

In 2014, we have had two squad accidents resulting in significant damage to Squad #17 and Squad #14. One of the accidents occurred on 03-26-14 near 80th/Lincoln resulting in a fatality to the driver of the other vehicle. This vehicle remains in police custody at the Wauwatosa Police Department pending a decision by the District Attorney's Office as to whether or not charges will be issued. The second accident occurred on 07-08-14 near 76th/Lincoln when a squad was struck by a flatbed truck that failed to stop for a red light.

In reviewing the damage with Mark Clough of American Family Insurance (squad 17) and Jim Puetzer of Accuity Insurance (squad 14), both vehicles are totaled and not repairable, both vehicles are a total loss. In addition, various pieces of equipment are damaged in each vehicle. Squad equipment is typically transferred from outgoing vehicles to newer vehicles as we rotate our fleet. Due to the damage to the equipment, we will not be able to transfer some of the equipment to our new squads; therefore, Mike Groth (PD Mechanic) examined both vehicles to determine pricing for replacement equipment. The price list for each vehicle is included below.

Both incidents were forwarded to the City Attorney's Office to work with Insurance Companies on these matters. Due to the seriousness of the accidents, it is unknown how long it will take for a settlement in these cases. Since these will not be replaced through Insurance in the near future, but the City may eventually be reimbursed when a settlement is reached, I am requesting these vehicles be replaced at this time. If/when a settlement is reached as to the vehicles, the appropriate account can be reimbursed at that time.

**Squad # 17 was a 2011 Chevy Impala 9C1 with about 68,000 miles**

Cost to replace vehicle \$22,000.00  
Cost of the Push bar \$345.00  
Cost of the Air Bag Cutoff for passenger side Air Bag \$275.00  
Cost of Siren Speaker and mount \$330.00  
Cost to replace headrest printer \$368.00

Cost of replacement cage \$864.00

All other squad equipment is undamaged and would be transferred to a new squad.

Labor to transfer remaining squad equipment and set-up Squad \$1964.00

Labor to stripe and add graphics is \$500.00

Total cost is \$ 26,646.00 for putting the car back the way it was without any upgrades to console, computer, camera system, safe stop, current antenna's etc.

**Squad # 14 was a 2014 Chevy Impala 9C1 with 6,760 miles.**

Cost to replace Vehicle \$22,000.00

Cost of the Push Bar \$ 345.00

Cost of a new Air Bag Cutoff for passenger side Air Bag \$275.00

New Harness for Light Bar damaged in accident \$ 200.00

New bars and door panel for right rear prisoner compartment \$150.00

All other squad equipment is undamaged and would be transferred to new squad.

Labor to transfer everything and set up new Squad \$1964.00

Labor to stripe and add graphics is \$500.00

Total cost is **\$25,434.00** for putting the car back the way it was without any upgrade to squad console, computer or camera systems.

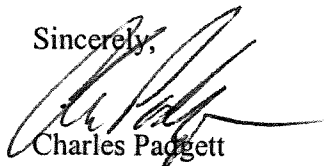
**Total \$ 52,080.00**

I am requesting that funding to purchase two new squads and necessary setup is accomplished through the cities contingency fund and that when any reimbursement is received through insurance or other means, it is replaced in that fund.

Please let me know your thoughts and if there are any other procedures or approvals I need to accomplish to have the two squads ordered through purchasing. If approved for replacement, I would like us to get them as soon as possible as we are hiring officers and will need the squads in the fleet for our staff.

Thank you for your consideration of this request in this difficult situation.

Sincerely,



Charles Paggett  
Chief of Police

CC. Commissioner Joseph Kempen