

LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 3, FILE # 030522

JULY 30, 2003

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File # 030522 is a substitute resolution authorizing the acceptance and expenditure of contributions received by the Milwaukee Police Department from federally forfeited tangible property of cash for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts.

Background

1. Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds come to the Police Department as a result of department participation in the seizure or forfeiture of tangible property or cash from successful drug trafficking investigations. The Federal government requires the funds only be used for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts; funds may not be used to supplant existing budgetary efforts.
2. Common Council File # 920252 requires the Police Department to present an annual Asset Forfeiture Expenditure Plan to the Common Council. The purpose of the plan is to ensure funding decisions provide for the most cost-effective use of these funds. Forfeiture Funds provide a significant level of “discretionary” spending power to the Police Department. A separate resolution is required for the expenditure of Asset Forfeiture funds. Once allocated, the Department can use funds for any approved purpose for a period of up to three years, after which unspent funds revert to the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account and become eligible for re-allocation.

Discussion

1. This substitute resolution will authorize the funding of various items in the 2003 Asset Forfeiture Plan. MPD has submitted these items based on needs and priorities within the department.
2. MPD requests that the following items and programs be funded:
 - **Midtown Substation** **\$ 5,915**
This new substation at the former Capitol Court requires signage.
 - **Printing Press** **23,000**
MPD’s printing press, 1970 vintage, recently failed.
This press is used for smaller printing jobs and produces approximately 40% of MPD’s printing needs.
 - **Pilot Program for Tasers** **11,000**
This pilot program plans the purchase of 15 tasers and accessories in order to evaluate non-lethal options when force is required.
This project will assist MPD in evaluating where tasers could be used.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pilot Program for Pepper Ball Technology This pilot program will be used to evaluate another form of non-lethal force technology available to the department. 	34,194
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Earphones These earphones are attached to MPD's portable radios and permit the officers to hear broadcasts in noisy venues. 	<u>8,000</u>
Total	\$82,109

Fiscal Impact

1. The total amount of this resolution is \$82,109, to be expended from the 2003 MPD Asset Forfeiture Plan.
2. Upon approval of these items, the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account will have a balance of \$230,920.25.

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LRB-Fiscal Review Section
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