

MEMORANDUM

Wed., February 14, 2007

To: Ald. Tony Zielinski, 14th District

From: Marianne C. Walsh, Research & Analysis Manager
Legislative Reference Bureau

Re: **CCFN 061338, Proposed Funding of a 3rd Police Class in 2007**

BACKGROUND

You introduced a file at the February 6, 2007, Common Council meeting, a resolution reserving and appropriating up to \$282,000 from the 2007 Special Purpose Account – Damages and Claims Fund for the purpose of funding an additional Milwaukee Police Department police recruit in 2007.

The 2007 Adopted City Budget includes funding for 2 police officer recruit classes of approximately 50-55 candidates each, with projected start dates of early June and early December. The number of vacancies in 2007 is now projected to be higher than anticipated due to 2 factors: the recruit classes that started in October and December 2006 were smaller than expected, and separations from employment for Milwaukee police officers in 2007 due to retirement, resignation and other personnel actions, is running higher than anticipated.

The Department of Administration – Budget and Management Division has estimated the cost of adding a third police recruit class to begin in early December 2007 at \$282,000 and that the 2nd recruit class could be moved up to mid-August with no additional cost incurred due to the savings from the increased number of vacancies.

Damages and Claims Fund

The 2007 Adopted Budget provides \$3.875 million in the Damages and Claims Fund – Special Purpose Account, an increase of \$2 million from the amount budgeted in 2006. In addition, the Comptroller's Office reports that an amount of more than \$1.7 million remained in the fund on December 31, 2006 which will likely be available for carryover from 2006 to 2007. The total amount of budgeted and potential carryover funds available in the Damages and Claims Fund for reservation, appropriation and expenditure in 2007 will likely exceed \$5.5 million. Reasonably anticipated exposure of the Damages and Claims Fund to amounts payable for settlement of claims and litigation and for satisfaction of monetary damage awards suggests the SPA is adequately funded for 2007.

Governor Doyle's Proposed Budget

Governor Doyle has included \$1.5 million in his proposed 2007-2008 state budget for the City of Milwaukee "to invest in additional law enforcement." It is anticipated that this \$1.5 million will be split over two years. Since the state legislature will not take formal action on the Governor's proposed budget until this summer, the \$1.5 million is not guaranteed. **In addition, it should be noted that if this \$1.5 million remains in the state budget, there may be state mandates or guidelines as to its allocation and expenditure by the City, including requirements for some percentage of matching funds from the City.**

Until the state budget is passed and it becomes certain how the City may utilize the \$1.5 million, and until the City is able to formally accept the funds, it is not possible for the Common Council to reserve, appropriate or expend any of this proposed \$1.5 million for any purpose.

However, should the Common Council approve CCFN 061338, and should any of the proposed \$1.5 million in state funding become available for purposes of funding the 3rd police recruit class prior to its December start date, the Common Council could rescind the file reserving and appropriating \$282,000 from the Damages and Claim Fund, and utilize the state funding instead.

taz.3rd class.memo