LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 10, FILE 011457

FEBRUARY 27, 2002

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File #011457 is a resolution authorizing appropriating funding from the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund to cover a shortage in the Library Board's Reciprocal Borrowing Special Account by Milwaukee Public Library.

Background and Discussion

- 1. Adoption of this resolution authorizes the appropriation of \$285,555 from the 2002 Contingent Fund to cover costs associated with MPL's Special Fund reciprocal borrowing account.
- 2. The Milwaukee County Federated System (MCFLS), is a state-funded, county-wide library cooperative that provides shared services. All 15 municipalities within Milwaukee County participate in MCFLS through a member agreement. (West Milwaukee participates through a separate agreement.) A reciprocal borrowing transaction occurs when a resident of a community borrows library material from another community within Milwaukee County. Reciprocal borrowing costs are incurred when materials borrowed between the communities are not in balance.
- 3. The members representing the communities were requested to sign the a new four-year Member Agreement by March 31, 2001. As of December 1, 2001, after the 2002 City Budget was adopted, all but 3 communities had signed the Agreement.
- 4. The MPL is funded to cover the reciprocal borrowing costs. For 2002, the total costs for transactions from October, 2000 through September 2001 was \$1,196,147. In the 2002 Adopted Budget, the Special Fund for reciprocal borrowing costs was funded at \$758,542.
- 5. The funding for the balance of the costs, \$420,458, was added to the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund, to ensure that funding is available for the payment of City of Milwaukee costs when the remaining 3 communities signed the Member Agreement for transactions incurred from April 2001 through September 2001.
- 6. The last two communities, Greenfield and Wauwatosa, recently signed the Member Agreement. This resolution authorizes the payment of \$285,555 to Greenfield and Wauwatosa for reciprocal borrowing costs. The payment of \$152,050 to West Allis was approved in File #011136, January 16, 2002.

Fiscal Impact

- 1. The total cost of this appropriation is \$285,555 to be expended from the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund, \$93,012.64 to Greenfield and \$192,542 to Wauwatosa.
- 2. Of the \$285,555 from the 2002 Common Council Contingent Fund to cover reciprocal borrowing costs, \$268,408 represents the balance of the \$420,458 added to the 2002 Contingent Fund for this cost. An additional amount of \$17,147 from the Contingent Fund is necessary to cover total expenses.
- 3. This action will increase MPL's Special Fund account by \$285,555, from \$910,592 to a new balance of \$1,196,147.

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